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Sleds popular

Our easy-to-follow direction enables do-it-yourselfers to build their own popular yet practical sled. **6B**

Mowing tips offered

People mowing their lawns need to strike a delicate balance between what looks nice and what keeps the grass healthy. **9A**

Szakal prosecution rests

District Attorney's Office wraps up its case against murder suspect by playing his 20-minute taped confession for the jury.

By CHRIS BUCKLEY
Staff Writer
cbuckley@tribweb.com

WASHINGTON, Pa. – In somber silence, the jury listened to 20 minutes of taped dialogue Thursday before the prosecution rested its case against accused killer Gerald Szakal.

The tape included Szakal's confession to state police in March 2008 that he killed retired Carroll Township police Chief Howard Springer and his wife, Nancy, in their home.

The tape brought some family members in the courtroom to tears.

Some jurors appeared to have welled up, too.

Police claim Szakal fatally shot the Springers March 4, 2008, in their home at 1241 Highland Road.

According to court records, Szakal stole jewelry and rare coins from his mother's Rostraver Township home and them to the Springers before returning to the couple's home to rob and kill them.

If convicted, Szakal could face the death penalty.

In the tape, Szakal said he alone went to the Springers' house, driving in his two-tone truck. He called the Springer home several times that day before going there on the ruse that he planned to sell the precious metals dealer some rare coins valued at $6,758.

Szakal told how he went outside the home to call co-conspirator Justin Welch and relate that he was "nervous" and "scared."

Szakal said eventually he "lost it," demanding money from Howard Springer, who refused.

(See SZAKAL, Page 2A)

INSIDE TODAY

Budget woes

Each day without a state budget means another day that day care center operators aren't getting paid for tending to the low-income children they serve. Such centers across the state have not been reimbursed since July, when the state's continuing budget stalemate began. **3A**

SPORTS

Pass or run?

Are the Steelers a running team that can't pass up the temptation to let Big Ben Roethlisberger throw on every important down? Or are they making the transition to a passing team that can't seem to commit to also having its usual strong running game? **1B**

Rams ready

There's nothing like opening your conference season against possibly Western Pennsylvania's best football program and most successful coach. That's what's facing Ringgold (2-1) in its Big 7 debut at Joe Montana Stadium tonight at 7 against Thomas Jefferson (3-0,1-0) and Coach Bill Cherpak. **1B**

DEATHS

■ Paul Braunegg, of Charleroi

Page 4A

WEATHER

Tonight
Cloudy 55°
Tomorrow
Rain 64°

Page 2A

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Two sections, 18 Pages

TUESDAY

Don't miss Valley Food, which appears each Saturday.

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World's eyes focusing on Pittsburgh

President Obama uses 'Burgh as stage to welcome the world's most powerful leaders.

By LUIS FABREGAS
For The Valley Independent
lfabregas@tribweb.com

On a day marked by hope for a world without nuclear weapons and by the reality of pepper spray-filled protests against government, President Obama used Pittsburgh as an international stage to welcome a coterie of the globe's most powerful leaders.

The backdrop was one of the city's most prized treasures, the steel and glass Victorian greenhouse at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Oakland, where the Obamas arrived shortly after 6 p.m. under light rain.

"How about those Steelers, man?" Obama, dressed in a blue suit, said as he greeted Mayor Luke Ravenstahl and his wife, Erin.

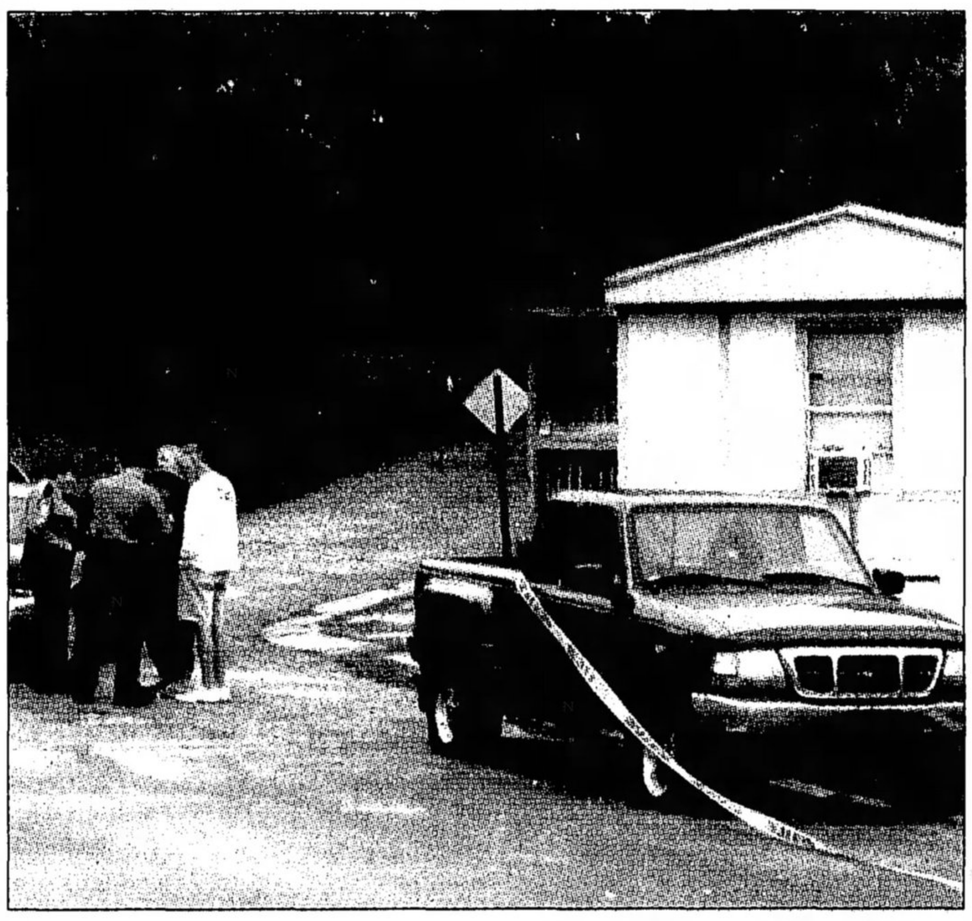
The glitzy reception capped a day filled with pomp and circumstance — and the smell of sweet onions — as government leaders and finance ministers from countries such as China, Russia, Germany, Brazil and Japan arrived at Pittsburgh International Airport throughout the afternoon.

About 18 miles away, the city's Downtown — known to locals as the Golden Triangle — resembled a movie set crammed with huge barriers and police officers standing guard on street corners. Their presence will continue through today, when the Group of 20 summit convenes inside the heavily guarded David L. Lawrence Convention Center for daylong sessions.

It is the third gathering of G-20 leaders since the collapse of investment bank Lehman Brothers shocked the world's finance system about a year ago.

Obama, fresh from a United Nations Security Council meeting in which leaders took a hard line against nuclear weapons, arrived at the Air Force Reserve 911th Airlift Wing at 3:26 p.m., four minutes earlier than scheduled. Within 11 minutes, the president and first lady Michelle Obama were in the presidential limousine en route to their undisclosed hotel.

(See SUMMIT, Page 2A)



Stacy Wolford/The Valley Independent

State police gather at the scene of an early morning fatal shooting at the Pinetop Estates Mobile Home Park in New Eagle. One man is dead following the incident.

Man shot to death at local trailer park

Unidentified victim reported ly was visiting in New Eagle at the time of the shooting.

By CHRIS BUCKLEY and STACY WOLFORD
Staff Writers
cbuckley@tribweb.com
swolford@tribweb.com

NEW EAGLE - A former New Eagle man was shot and killed early today.

The victim, whose name was not released, was shot at the Pinetop Estates Mobile Home Park on Applewood Drive in New Eagle around 3 this morning.

He was transported by emergency helicopter to a Pittsburgh-based hospital, where he died of his injuries.

Monongahela Police Chief Brian Tempest said state police have taken over the investigation.

More than one shot was fired in the incident, Tempest said.

The victim was apparently visiting the area when he was shot, sources said.

An unidentified man was being held in police custody. He had not been charged as of press time.

Yellow police tape cordoned off the dark green mobile home where the shooting took place as neighbors gathered outside.

Several neighbors who live near the mobile home where the incident occurred were shocked when they heard a man had been shot.

Carol Petre said she is "traumatized" by the incident, and can't believe it happened in their quiet neighborhood.

"This kind of stuff doesn't happen here," she said.

Donetta Taylor said she woke to hear banging outside.

"I didn't think anything of it because we've had problems with someone banging on doors late at night," Taylor said.

Josh Collins said he heard two shots fired this morning.

"I went outside. I wanted to see what was going on because I have a son," Collins said.

State police were still at the scene this morning interviewing witnesses and gathering evidence.

No other information was available at press time.

Small games tax irks area reps.

Valley lawmakers say they need specifics to seriously consider a state budget.

By JEFF PIKULSKY
Staff Writer
jpikulsky@tribweb.com

Several Mid-Mon Valley lawmakers say a proposed tax on small games of chance could be a major sticking point in ending the last state budget impasse in the United States.

The recently proposed measure has given legislators much more to think about concerning the $27.9 billion budget, especially because it could affect fire department revenues already impacted by slots gaming in the region.

After months of wrangling, high-ranking Pennsylvania state lawmakers sent a revised budget plan to Gov. Ed Rendell. The governor did not get all he wanted – including a state income tax hike – but he has expressed support for the proposal.

State Rep. R. Ted Harhai said he is most concerned with taxing bingo games that have suffered locally since the opening of new casinos and the legalization of slots gambling.

"They need some way to generate revenue, and the state can't afford to fund them," he said. "They need something to survive, and they spend so much time fundraising.

"I'm definitely set against the 20 percent small games of chance tax. I don't know who drew that one up. I've received numerous calls and e-mails from fire departments, and they're definitely not happy with that.

"It's bad enough with the economy the way it is, and this adds insult to injury. That is just absolutely not fair, and having to wait 90 days for a budget isn't fair, either."

Pennsylvania has been without a budget since July 1.

Harhai attributed much of the delay to an internal power struggle.

"The Senate Republicans, it appears that they're more concerned in the next year's election, about regaining the majority in the State House, than they are about what we were elected to do, to represent the people. And that's a sad state of affairs," he said.

The proposed budget could cut state funding for some social service, mental health, drug and alcohol education, day care and pre-kindergarten programs, Harhai said.

"It's sad because these people have set up programs," he said. "I don't think that the entire negotiating group in the state has been fair to education.

"You have school boards that have had to raise taxes; school boards that have borrowed to the limit. I don't know where it's going to end up and what's cut."

Harhai said he and other legislators will receive more information on the latest proposal in Harrisburg on Monday.

"I've just seen bits and pieces,

(See GAMES, Page 10A)

Regional C of C hands out awards

Chamber cited 3 local businesses and Belle Vernon Area Schools Superintendent Stephen V. Russell.

By DONALD HOLTZ
For The Valley Independent

CARROLL TOWNSHIP – The Mon Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce honored three prominent area businesses and a distinguished local educator Thursday night before a crowd of more than 150 people at the Anthony Lombardi Education Conference Center on the campus of Mon Valley Hospital.

Chamber executive director Debra Keefer described the following honorees as outstanding in their fields:

■ Stephen V. Russell, who was awarded a Shining Star Award for his professional attributes and service to the community.

■ The Charleroi division of Progeny Systems, represented by John MacKay, facility manager, which was awarded Outstanding Business Development Award for its leadership and entrepreneurial spirit.

■ Fields of Heather owners Tom and Gretchen Speece, who received the Excellence in Business Award in recognition of their "outstanding product and service."

■ The Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority, represented by Dr. Harry Miale, board chairman, which was awarded the Regional Service Award for contributions to the quality of life in the Mid-Mon Valley.

"I was awe struck by the layers that make up this individual," Keefer said in introducing Russell, who has served as an educator, historian, public speaker, writer and is the current superintendent of Belle Vernon Area School District.

As chairman of the Mid Mon Valley All Sports Hall of Fame and a former school principal, Russell said he is more accustomed to giving awards than receiving them.

"Motivating a youngster to do better in school and thus to believe in their own inner self-esteem is rewarding," Russell said. "Seeing a smile on a face is most gratifying."

He wore a smile himself as he thanked mentors and friends.

MacKay accepted the award on behalf of Progeny

(See AWARDS, Page 2A)

VALLEY PEOPLE

Szakal (FROM PAGE ONE)

Szakal said the gun went off and Howard Springer was shot in the face. He then chased Nancy Springer, kicking her in the head three or four times before shooting her in the face.

Szakal said on the tape that he gave thousands to his co-conspirators and went on a spending spree, buying jewelry, clothing, hotel stays and heroin.

Trooper Beverly Ashton said previous statements from Szakal were not taped because those statements did not match other information police had accumulated from various interviews that pointed to the suspect. She explained that this statement - the third made by Szakal - was taped because he appeared ready to confess. His confession had details that matched details gathered during the course of the police investigation. For example, she said, Szakal said Nancy Springer was on the telephone when he got to the home, matching phone records.

Earlier in the day, the final co-conspirator in the case took the stand to testify against Szakal. It was a chance for defense attorney Noah Geary to attack Tecko Dwayne Tartt's credibility and test his theory that the former Donora man actually killed the Springers.

Tartt, accused of providing the murder weapon, took the stand Thursday morning to testify against Szakal.

Tartt testified that Welch told him Szakal was seeking a gun for a robbery.

Tartt testified he acquired the gun from Anthony "Jinx" Law and gave it to Welch and Szakal in the bedroom of Welch's Crest Avenue, Charleroi, apartment.

Earlier this year, Law pleaded guilty to aggravated assault before Washington County Judge Paul Pozonsky for shooting Derrick Dixon, of Charleroi, in the leg during a shooting incident Oct. 3 in an alley in Donora during which three Monessen men were shot. Law, of Charleroi, was initially charged with three counts each of criminal attempt/criminal homicide, aggravated assault and simple assault.

Tartt said he spent the night of the shootings in Donora with various friends.

The following day, Welch called Tartt to come to his apartment because "he had money for me."

"Everybody was pretty much running around, pretty scared on drugs," Tartt testified. "Welch pulled me into a room and gave me money and I asked, 'Why people were running around?' He said, 'I think Jerry killed somebody.'"

Tartt said he asked Welch why he allowed Szakal to stay at the apartment, suggesting he should distance himself from him.

Welch asked Tartt to dispose of the gun, which he refused. Tartt testified that Vaughn Crews took the gun and gave it back to Law.

Tartt claimed Szakal threatened to have Tartt's family killed if he testified against him.

Tartt said he did not go to the Springers' house with Szakal and did not pull the trigger.

In cross examination from Geary, Tartt admitted that he, Vaughn Crews and Law tried to rob Szakal the morning after the murders.

"You're a peaceful guy; you're a nonviolent guy?" Geary asked.

"I've committed crimes, but not kill someone," Tartt said.

Geary showed copies of Tartt's MySpace page downloaded in April 2008 that contains a photograph of him holding a gun at his head. It also contained a long verse that concludes, "I clap my gun," a slang for shooting a weapon. Tartt explained that it was a lyric from rapper Cassidy, who was convicted of involuntary manslaughter, two counts of aggravated assault and possession of an instrument of crime for his involvement in a shooting in 2005.

The defense is expected to begin its case when the trial is scheduled to resume Monday before Washington County Judge Debbie O'Dell Seneca.

Yesteryear

Officers of the Charleroi Police Department had a group photo taken on Nov. 11, 1964. In front are Lt. Robert Ellison, Chief William Thomas and Lt. William Verno. Also pictured are Samuel Kopach, Larry Celaschi, Ed Hank, Joe Piccinotti, Francis Behrendt, Ted Zelenski, John Bonner, Moe Ramusivich, Clarence Potts, Bill Lundy, Carl Witmyer and Sam Woncheck. The photo was submitted by Margaret Kopach, of Charleroi.

If you have a good old-time photograph, send it to us at Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa., 15062.

Weather

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
High 64 Low 54	High 70 Low 56	High 70 Low 47	High 60 Low 49	High 63 Low 47

Senators to square off on public insurance plan

Debate over the controversial plan likely will take place next week.

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Advocates for a public insurance plan — the idea that has generated the most passion in the high-decibel health care debate — are pressing for a crucial test vote in the Senate Finance Committee.

Democratic Sens. Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia and Chuck Schumer of New York said Thursday they want a full debate on whether the government should create a health plan to compete with private insurers and sign up middle-class workers and their families. Up to now, the government has covered the elderly and the poor.

Rockefeller and Schumer had hoped their moment would come today, but with the committee moving slowly through hundreds of amendments to the sweeping legislation, the public plan debate was pushed off until next week.

The public option continues to enjoy broad support in opinion polls. But Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., pointedly omitted it from the far-reaching proposal he put before the panel this week, saying he doesn't think it can pass the Senate.

Liberals are eager to prove him wrong. Regardless of how the showdown goes, the battle is expected to continue on the Senate floor.

"Even though the public plan may be an underdog in the Senate Finance Committee, don't count it out," Schumer said. "It's going to be a fight that goes all the way down to the wire."

Many Democrats see the government plan as way to force accountability on what Rockefeller called a "rapacious insurance industry." Conservatives see it as a step inevitably leading to a government takeover — Medicare for all.

The Finance Committee is seen as a key testing ground because it is dominated by moderates and conservatives, generally reflecting the makeup of the Senate.

Rockefeller and Schumer plan to offer slightly different versions of a public plan, aides said. Under Rockefeller's version, the government would set payment levels for hospitals and doctors. Schumer wants negotiated payment rates, similar to what private insurers use.

Baucus has proposed setting up nonprofit co-ops as an alternative to a government plan, an idea that liberals dismiss as ineffectual. No Republican has voiced support for a public plan, although Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine says using the threat of government competition could be a good strategy to force insurers to keep the cost of premiums down.

The public plan also will be one of the top items on the agenda in the House, where Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., has scheduled a three-hour leadership meeting this morning to try to resolve differences among Democrats.

Democratic leaders are groping for consensus as they work to merge health overhaul bills passed by three separate House committees into a single piece of legislation to bring to the floor. They hope to finish by next week but plenty of issues are unresolved, ranging from restrictions on abortion funding and whether to strengthen measures to prevent illegal immigrants from getting government subsidies, to the shape of the public plan and how to pay for the bill.

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Awards (FROM PAGE ONE)

Systems-Charleroi Division, which contributes greatly to the local economy and is known for generous contributions to area programs.

MacKay used the occasion to pay tribute to the late Chuck Dreer, who is credited with starting the company.

"I wish Chuck could be here accepting the award", MacKay said.

The privately-held high-tech small business specializes in electronic system developments for the United States Department of Defense.

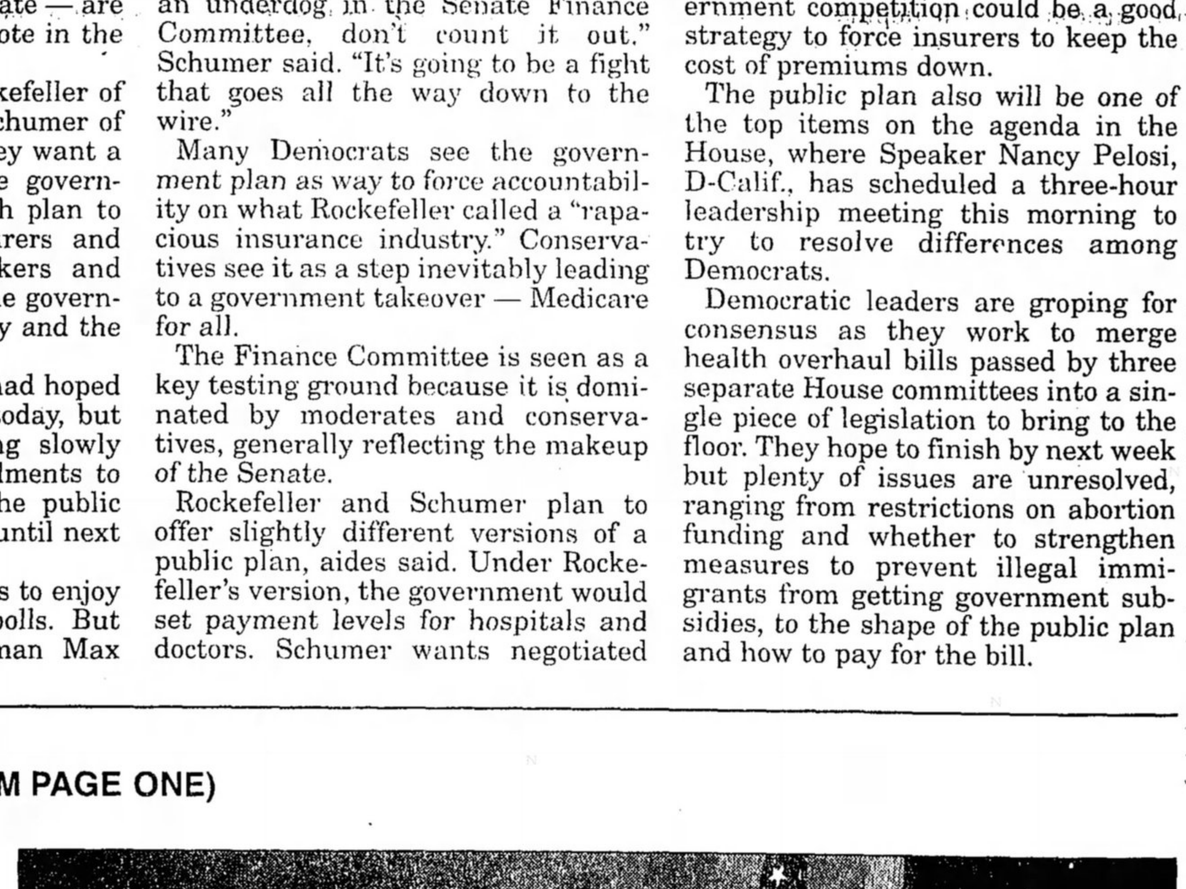
The Speeces have operated their floral shop, Fields of Heather, and served the Charleroi community for two decades.

"We opened without an account on the books and were embraced by the community," Gretchen Speece said.

The transit authority was honored for providing cost-effective bus service for area residents.

Members of the MMVTA staff was in attendance after working all day to keep the community "moving in a new direction," Maile said.

He added that he is grateful to serve the community and believes the Mon Valley to be "the prettiest place on earth."



From left are John MacKay, Progeny Systems; Dr. Harry Miale, Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority; Gretchen Speece, Caitlin Speece, and Tom Speece, all of Fields of Heather; and Stephen Russell, Belle Vernon Area superintendent of schools who received an individual Shining Star Award for his service to the community.

www.valleyindependent.com

Wiretap may be used as evidence in drug case

Some $250,000 worth of cocaine wound up in Coal Center.

By RICH CHOLODOFSKY
For The Valley Independent
rcholodofsky@tribweb.com

Jurors will be able to hear drug-smuggling evidence developed through a recorded conversation between a confidential informant and Philadelphia man accused of transporting $250,000 worth of cocaine through the Greensburg train station.

Westmoreland County Judge John Blahovec, in a seven-page opinion filed Thursday, refused a defense request to bar the wiretapped telephone conversation that ultimately led to the Feb. 24 arrest of Teodoro Santos and Blas Melendez Jr.

Both men were charged with drug offenses after undercover police initiated a sting operation using the informant.

After traveling from Philadelphia, Santos, 35, and Melendez, 32, got off the train and drove to Coal Center with an undercover agent, police said.

While they were in the vehicle, Santos used a knife to remove about seven pounds of cocaine that had been taped to Melendez's chest, police said.

Defense attorney Marc Frumer argued during a hearing earlier this week that the warrant authorizing the wiretap was faulty because it contained a typographical error and it was not witnessed by the deputy attorney general prosecuting the case.

Blahovec said both issues raised by the defense were not enough to throw out the tape recording of Santos and the informant setting up the drug buy.

The judge ordered that Santos and Melendez be tried separately.

Earlier this year, Blahovec ruled there was insufficient evidence to support a racketeering charge against Melendez.

Racketeering and drug charges against Santos are still pending. Melendez will only be tried for drug offenses.

"A joint trial will necessarily expose Melendez to the taint of the racketeering charge even though this court found no evidence to support that charge, and even though it was dismissed against Melendez the prejudice to him certainly outweighs the policy of encouraging joint trials," Blahovec wrote.

S.C. Spangler/For The Valley Independent

Brother Kris, 3, and sister Michaela, 5, jump over cracks hand-in-hand along North Fourth Street in West Newton while walking with day care leaders Ashley Mancini, left background, and Diane Mesiarik, back right, on Thursday.

Day care centers struggle to cope with fund shortage

Financial situation worsens each day without a state budget in place.

By JENNIFER REEGER
For The Valley Independent
jreeger@tribweb.com

Each day without a state budget means another day that Diane Mesiarik, Shannon Denitti and Ashley Mancini aren't getting paid for opening up their day care centers to the low-income children they serve.

The three friends, who operate separate family day care centers in their West Newton homes, have become more determined to not let the lack of cash flow break them.

They've been sharing information, ideas and daily walks to help each other weather the financial storm.

"I guess we're just supporting each other and making sure we don't get to the point where we want to give up because we can't give up," said Mesiarik, who has offered day care in her home for the past 15 years.

Day care centers across the state have not been reimbursed since July for accepting children of low-income workers whose care is subsidized by the state. Centers have not received payments for a food reimbursement program.

That means Mesiarik has not been paid for three of the nine children she cares for. Denitti has three full-time children out of 11 who receive state subsidies, while four of Mancini's seven children are paid for that way.

"If it weren't for my husband I'd have had to close my day care because financially I wouldn't be able to operate my day care like this," Denitti said. Her husband is a teacher.

"Financially, it's hurting me," added Mancini.

"It is still my job and I love my job and not a lot of people can say that, but it definitely hurts because we can't do the things we normally like to do as a family."

Mesiarik and Denitti, who both receive money through the food program, rely on parents to bring lunches or donate food.

Mancini never received the food subsidy, but she's cut back in other ways.

"I can't go out and buy the supplies I usually buy for crafts and that's because I include that in my price," she said.

The three were friends before the budget impasse. Denitti watched Mesiarik's daughter before Mesiarik opened her own day care. And Mancini worked for both of them before she opened her home to kids two years ago.

With all of them in the same situation, they rely on each other for moral support.

They write letters and meet with politicians. They keep each other updated on news. They brainstorm ideas on how to save money. They put signs up letting people know about how the impasse is impacting early childhood education.

Mesiarik and Mancini, who live close to one another, started meeting each morning to take their kids for a walk, giving them a chance to talk and vent.

"It's a lot of moral support more than anything, just saying we can get through this together," Denitti said. "I'm living day to day and hoping (payment) comes here soon — and sooner than what they expect."

They've been encouraging each other, particularly Mancini.

"We don't want to see her close her doors and be kicking herself six months down the road and have to start all over again," Mesiarik said.

Mancini, who attends college at night, applied for state assistance for her family but was denied because her husband earns too much. She can't find a part-time job that would fit her schedule.

Having Mesiarik and Denitti in her corner "means a lot," she said.

"We try to just throw jokes around here and there just to talk about it." Mancini said. "You hear one thing (about the budget) one day and another the next. Now we're just trying to stick it out and do it for our kids. The families depend on us. If we close our door, where are the kids going to go?"

Mesiarik said they'll make it in spite of the politicians.

"I was real bitter at first but I kind of got over that, and now it's almost like a challenge," she said.

"Let's see how long I can go without getting paid. Let's see how long I can hold out because I can hold out as long as they can."

Fayette leaders pressed to hire new VA director

Standing-room-only crowd at commissioners' meeting demands action.

By MARY PICKELS
For The Valley Independent
mpickels@tribweb.com

A standing-room-only crowd of veterans attended Thursday's Fayette County commissioners' meeting, demanding the board move forward with filling the position of veterans affairs director, and that they work harder to keep a qualified candidate.

Last month, Floyd "Wayne" Coddington resigned from the job, marking the sixth time in five years that a director has quit.

Donnie Coleman, 62, of Lemont Furnace, asked the commissioners why the position, posted Wednesday, was not advertised immediately after Coddington's resignation.

Commissioner Angela Zimmerlink had been in favor of posting the position quickly, saying a new hire's salary for the few months left in the year would not have been "significant."

Commissioner Vincent Zapotosky said a hiring freeze was enacted for several weeks, pending the outcome of the state budget stalemate.

Coleman said flyers he distributed regarding a rally being held at 11 a.m. today in front of the courthouse were not posted in the veterans affairs office, which he viewed as a sign of disrespect.

He said Madonna Polito Nicklow, the office's longtime veterans representative/accredited veterans service officer, refused to hang them.

Nicklow said last month that she will apply for the director's position.

Although all three commissioners said the flyers should have been posted, Zimmerlink said there is a policy that addresses county bulletin boards and what can be placed on them. Nicklow followed procedure by checking with the commissioners first, she said.

Coleman also expressed frustration about the revolving door regarding the director's position.

"It's not all bad people being hired," he said . "We are not done yet. We are going to stick up for ourselves. I don't think we should take second seat to anything. We are doing that now without a veterans affairs director in this county."

Commissioner Vincent Vicites said the office's budget has increased 13 percent since 2007.

"We are progressing, getting more compensation for veterans," he said.

Coleman asked Zapotosky what he thought the problem was.

"I don't know," Zapotosky said. "But there has got to be something and we've got to figure it out collectively."

The county's veterans liaison committee typically interviews applicants and recommends their top picks to the commissioners.

Coddington also attended yesterday's meeting, claiming he had concerns about the security of veterans' files and that he had asked that the door be "re-keyed."

He suggested commissioners "sanitize the office" and "put people in there that really care."

Nicklow, tearing up, said the office's files are safe.

She also apologized to Coleman for not hanging the flyers.

"It was a misunderstanding," she said.

"I take care of the veterans, each and every one," she said.

"I don't know if the commissioners have ever gotten a complaint about me. But I can honestly say when a veteran leaves my office they are satisfied."

"I think there is not a soul in this room that does not want to see that office successful," Zapotosky said. "Emotions are high. There may be some tempers flare. The fact remains that as county commissioners we have the charge to provide a service to veterans."

Car sales jump in region

Auto sales jumped in July and August in the Pittsburgh region, the two months that the government's Cash for Clunkers program was in place.

Sales totaled 22,661, an 8.7 percent jump compared to 20,850 in the same two months in 2008, according to the Greater Pittsburgh Auto Dealers Association, which represents 180 dealers in 11 area counties. For the year, sales are down 15.5 percent from 2008, through August.

"It's definitely quieter than it was last month. We've noticed a real cutback (this month) from last year. It's down about 10-to-15 percent," said Timothy Fitzgerald, general sales manager for the Bowser dealerships in Pleasant Hills.

The $3 billion Car Allowance Rebate System program gave buyers a trade-in value of up to $4,000 and resulted in about 690,000 sales nationwide.

The program ran from July 24 to Aug. 24 and pulled vehicle sales that might have been spread out this fall, dealers said.

Deal prevents strikes on Westmoreland projects

By RICH CHOLODOFSKY
For The Valley Independent
rcholodofsky@tribweb.com

Westmoreland County commissioners on Thursday approved a three-year agreement with local trade unions to ensure there are no work stoppages on construction projects for the county.

Democrats Tom Balya and Tom Ceraso, who signed off on the deal, said yesterday that it means that only qualified contractors will bid for county work.

"It's just a higher standard overall and a way for use to ensure we have qualified people to do the job," Ceraso said.

The labor stabilization agreement was proposed by the Pittsburgh Region Building and Construction Trades Council and is mirrored by similar efforts in Allegheny and other neighboring counties. It only affects construction projects of more than $150,000.

Laborers agreed to give up the right to strike and the deal calls for a detailed grievance process for disputes. It mandates criteria that contractors must meet in order to be eligible for county work.

One eligibility requirement mandates contractors to have apprenticeship programs for learning laborers.

Republican Commissioner Charles Anderson, who voted against the deal, said that criteria renders the agreement unfair to small businesses.

"As I read it, it looks like it's anti-small business," Anderson said.

Commissioner Tom Balya said the deal is good for the county and should not hinder the ability of small contractors from participating in work for the county.

"I don't view it as bad for small business," Balya said.

Westmoreland County has few major large-scale construction projects planned. A $4-million renovation of the Regional Youth Services Center is under way but is not subject to the labor stabilization agreement, which took effect yesterday.

Bill Brooks, president of the Building and Construction Trades Council, said the agreement has been successful in other counties and should not prevent anyone, including nonunion workers and small contractors, from participating in government jobs.

"I don't think it is really bad for anybody," he said.

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RECORDS

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT

Mark Wilson, Monongahela

The following cases were held before Magisterial District Judge Mark Wilson of Monongahela this week:

■ Eric Rice, 29, of 827 Maple Ave., New Eagle, was charged with two counts of DUI and a traffic offense Aug. 31 by Monongahela police. The case was held for court.

■ Gary Marche, 49, of 421 Williams St., Monongahela, was charged with public drunkenness Aug. 30 by Monongahela police. He pleaded guilty.

■ William Koster, 20, of 82 McKean Ave., Donora, was charged with possession of a small amount of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia Aug. 13 by Donora police. The case was waived to court.

■ Matthew Shannon, 23, of 418 Murray Ave., Donora, was charged with disorderly conduct Aug. 11 by Donora police. He was found guilty.

■ Doug Johnson, 21, of 583 McKean Ave., Donora, was charged with harassment Aug. 2 by Donora police. He was found not guilty because the victim failed to show.

■ Brian Datovech, 33, of 623 1/2 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, was charged with DUI and traffic violations April 16 by Carroll Township police. The case was waived to court.

■ Jack Fritzel, 53, of 109 Alexander St., Monongahela, was charged with DUI and driving while privileges were suspended-DUI related on July 11 by Carroll Township police. The case was waived to court.

■ Lattorice Vince-Thomas, 20, of 51 Highland Terrace, Donora, was charged with corruption of minors, harassment and criminal conspiracy Aug. 10 by Donora police. The case was dismissed because neither the officer nor the victim showed.

■ Joseph Mullen, 39, of 135 Union St., New Eagle, was charged with theft by deception and theft by unlawful taking April 29 by Monongahela police. The case was held for court.

■ Joseph Mullen, 39, of 135 Union St., New Eagle, was charged with theft by deception and theft by unlawful taking May 18 by Monongahela police. The case was held for court.

■ John Massey, 18, of 1328 Overlook Terrace, Donora, was charged with possession or distribution of a small amount of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance and underage drinking Aug. 21 by Donora police. The case was held for court.

■ Crystal Massey, 21, of 5056 Sardis Road, New Kensington, was charged with selling or furnishing alcohol to minors Aug. 21 by Donora police. The case was held for court.

■ Kevin Cleary, 22, of 308 Sixth Ave., New Eagle, was charged with public drunkenness Aug. 26 by Donora police. He was found not guilty as the police officer failed to show.

■ Pittsburgh Produce, LLC, of McMurray, was charged with writing bad checks Oct. 10, 2008, by a private party. The case was held for court.

■ Pittsburgh Produce, LLC, of McMurray, was charged with writing bad checks Oct. 17, 2008, by a private party. The case was held for court.

■ Ryan Slavick, 33, of 1008 Thomas St., Monongahela, was charged with three counts of harassment and terroristic threats April 24 by Carroll Township police. The case was waived to court.

Fayette Co. tables zoning amendment

The change is aimed at protecting and preserving cultural and heritage assets.

By MARY PICKELS
For The Valley Independent
mpickels@tribweb.com

UNIONTOWN – Fayette County commissioners Thursday tabled an amendment to the zoning ordinance creating a historic resources overlay, after several people attending the board meeting argued for and against the measure.

In effect, overlay zoning creates a special zoning district placed over an existing zone, which identifies special provisions in addition to those in the underlying zone.

The proposed overlay of the zoning ordinance is designed to protect, preserve and use the county's unique cultural and heritage assets, notably the historical, architectural and patriotic events and sites, as well as archaeological and environmental sites.

Yesterday Dunbar Township resident Marilyn Cellurale said she had reviewed an on-line copy of the draft and found several recent changes to the language.

Commissioner Vincent Zapotosky said he had a call in to Carolyn Yaugle of Environmental Planning and Design of Pittsburgh regarding language changes.

Cellurale claimed some of the revisions "take away rights from us" and "will stifle every bit of development for some segments of Fayette County."

The Cellurale family operates two businesses on Route 119, on property fronting the historic Isaac Meason House, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Cellurale claimed that revisions to the overlay exclude some businesses from "jumping through hoops," and is worded so that any development will "always be in someone's viewshed."

Zapotosky said he had reservations regarding the "unfunded mandate" the ordinance can bring.

"These things are mandatory in here," said Commissioner Vincent Vicites. "We better proceed with extreme caution. My concern is to develop long-term growth in the county. ... I have nothing against historic sites whatsoever, but we have to balance it."

Steelers add 4 minority owners

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Four new minority owners have joined the Pittsburgh Steelers' revamped ownership group that is headed by team chairman emeritus Dan Rooney and his son, team president Art Rooney II.

The team announced the new members of the ownership group Thursday. They are David Tepper, the Paul Sams Family, Ben Statler and Mike Wilkins. Six other minority owners were previously announced, including Hall of Fame receiver John Stallworth.

The Steelers had been owned equally by the five sons of founder Art Rooney Sr. since the elder Rooney died in 1988, with a smaller share held by the John McGinley family. The group was revamped so Dan and Art Rooney II now hold the 30 percent stake required by the NFL of a franchise's primary owner.

DEATH NOTICES

BRAUNEGG — Paul Braunegg, of Charleroi, on Thursday, Sept. 24. Carl J. Spallino Funeral Home, Charleroi.

DILLARD — Betty J. Dillard, 82, of Northern Cambria, formerly of Belle Vernon, on Thursday, Sept. 24. Beverly C. Draper Funeral Home, Monessen.*

PREVIOUS DEATHS:
ATKINS, Donald D.*
ZENOBI, Dominic E.*
*** See death notice**

Donald Dale Atkins
Monongahela

Friends and family of Donald Dale Atkins, 83, of Monongahela, who died July 16, 2009, are invited to attend a memorial service 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, 2009, in the First Christian Church, Chess and Sixth Streets, Monongahela, with the Rev. Gerald Demarest officiating.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Betty J. Dillard
Northern Cambria
Formerly of
Belle Vernon

Betty J. Simpson Dillard, 82, of Northern Cambria, formerly of Belle Vernon, departed this life Sept. 24, 2009, in Conemaugh Hospital in Johnstown. Born Feb. 2, 1927, in Belle Vernon, she was a daughter of the late Nelson and Josephine Batch Simpson. Betty was an avid homemaker and loyal member of Speer Street A.M.E. Church. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her devoted husband, John "Jack" R. Dillard Sr.; eight brothers: James, Lawrence, Nelson, Robert, Louis, Henry, Keith and Dale Simpson; and two sisters, Hazel Simpson Chilton, and Ethel Simpson Chilton. Betty is survived by two sons, John R. (Michelle) Dillard Jr. of Powell, Ohio, and Kimberly V. Dillard of Northern Cambria; one grandson, Shawn Dillard of York; and three granddaughters, Stacy Dillard of Dublin, Ohio, Ruby Dillard of Zanesville, Ohio, and Melissa Dillard of Northern Cambria; one sister, Velma Frazier of Belle Vernon; several great-grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews and friends. A private service will be held Saturday, Sept. 26, at 10 a.m. in the Belle Vernon Cemetery chapel, 1000 Broad Ave, Belle Vernon. Arrangements have been entrusted to BEVERLY C. DRAPER FUNERAL HOME INC., 608 Sixth Street, Monessen, (724) 684-6242.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Dominic E. Zenobi
Monessen

Dominic E. Zenobi, 74, of Monessen, went to be with the Lord Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009, in Mon Valley Hospital. He was born March 1, 1935, in Donora, a son of the late Anthony and Rose Davanzo Zenobi. He worked as a machinist for Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel prior to his retirement. He attended the former First Baptist Church of Monessen and currently was attending Pricedale Union Church. Surviving are his wife, Betty Steer Zenobi: two sons, Thomas and wife, Jill Zenobi, of Monessen, and John and wife, Rachael Zenobi, of Belle Vernon; three daughters, Donna and husband, Steve Baciak, of Florida, Toni and husband, Kevin Post, of Monessen and Joyce and husband, Jay Nicholls of Perryopolis; 13 grandchildren, Dawn, Cynthia, Kevin, Stephen, Amy, Lisa, Raelyn, Alyssa, Anthony, Jacob, Rebecca, Zach, and Ava; 13 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; two brothers, Sam and wife, Ruth Zenobi, of Monongahela, and Jim and wife, Barb Zenobi, of Donora; three sisters, Louise Smedley, Norma Zenobi, and Rose Ann and husband, Tom Stewart; sister-in-law, Nancy Layton; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his grandson, Mark Zenobi, and his sister and brother-in-law, Antoinette and Curtis Hayden. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the RHOME FUNERAL HOME INC., family owned and operated as a member of the Golden Rule, 1209 Grand Blvd., Monessen, where friends will be received 1 to 3 and 6 to 8 p.m. Friday. Services will be held in the chapel of the funeral home 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, 2009, with Rev. James Mimidis officiating. Interment will follow in the Grandview Cemetery, Monessen, PA, 15062.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Belle Vernon Area High School will conduct a food drive today to benefit the Westmoreland County Food Bank. Students who donate $1 or bring in canned food will be allowed to wear hats during the day at school. Teachers who do the same will be permitted to dress casually. More than 20 students will collect food and monetary donations at the gates during the school's football game at 7 tonight. Pictured from left are BVA seniors and National Honor Society members Jocelyn Connolly, Breanne Bachovchin, Justin Sellew, A.J. Cocciolone and Haylie Parkinson.

Jeff Pikulsky/The Valley Independent

Manson follower Atkins dead at 61

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Susan Atkins, a follower of cult leader Charles Manson whose remorseless witness stand confession to killing pregnant actress Sharon Tate in 1969 shocked the world, has died. She was 61.

Atkins

Atkins, who had brain cancer, died late Thursday night, said California Department of Corrections spokeswoman Terry Thornton. At the time of Atkins death, she had been in prison longer than any woman currently incarcerated in California, Thornton said.

Atkins' death comes less than a month after a parole board turned down the terminally ill woman's last chance at freedom on Sept. 2. She was brought to the hearing on a gurney and slept through most of it.

Tate, the 26-year-old actress who appeared in the movie "Valley of the Dolls" and was the wife of famed director Roman Polanski, was one of seven murdered in two Los Angeles homes during the Manson cult's bloody rampage in August 1969.

Atkins was the first of the convicted killers to die.

Atkins, who confessed from the witness stand during her trial, had apologized for her acts numerous times over the years. But 40 years after the murders, she learned that few had forgotten or forgiven what she and other members of the cult had done.

Shadow

This is in memory of Shadow, our Rottweiler, who died September 13th from cancer. She was always at my husband Ernie's side! Like all the rest of our dogs we've had, she too, came to us needing a home! She came to us with a name called Precious and every time I needed Ernie I found her and there he was so he changed her name to Shadow! And that's just what she was, his Shadow! Everyone who came to our home just loved her! We loved and cared for her very much and we'll greatly miss her! She truly was a man's best friend! Greatly missed but never forgotten! Our Shadow.

The Rainbow Bridge

There is a bridge connecting Heaven and Earth. It is called the Rainbow Bridge because of its many colors. Just this side of the Rainbow Bridge there is a land of many meadows, hills and valleys with lush green grass. When a beloved pet dies, and the pet goes to this place there is always food and water and warm spring weather. The old and frail animals are young again. Those who are maimed are made whole again. They play all day with each other. There is only one thing missing. They are not with the special person who loved them on earth. So, each day they run and play until the day comes when one suddenly stops playing and looks up! The eyes start staring! And this one suddenly runs from the group! You have been seen, and when you and your special friend meet, you take him or her in your arms and embrace. Your face is kissed again and again and again, and you look once more into the eyes of your trusting pet. Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together, never again to be separated.

Love our girl,
Sally & Ernie Ehlers

POLICE LOG

State police, Belle Vernon

■ Police are looking for a 16-year-old Finleyville girl who ran away from her Union Township home at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

Ashley Mavilla was last seen wearing black pants and a pink hoodie. She is white, 5-feet, 6-inches, weighing about 150 pounds with reddish hair. She may be in the Donora area. Anyone with information is asked to call police at (724) 929-6262.

■ Ashley Avery reported the windshield of her vehicle was damaged sometime Tuesday or Wednesday on Lowber Road, Jefferson Township.

■ Andrew James Stirling, 40, of Elizabeth, was charged with theft and receiving stolen property after he was allegedly observed by Perry Township Supervisor A.J. Boni removing scrap metal from a recycling dumpster at Ball Transfer Systems, Route 51.

Washington Twp.

■ Michael F. Uhor Jr., 45, of 343-A Krolik Ave., Belle Vernon, was arrested on two warrants for allegedly violating a protection from abuse order Tuesday and Wednesday, police said. He was taken to the Fayette County Jail.

■ Jenevieve M. Kash, 21, of 117 Lee Drive, Belle Vernon, was cited for disorderly conduct at 10:30 a.m. Sept. 16 following an alleged incident on the 1300 block of Paradise Avenue, police said.

VALLEY GRAPEVINE

Seats available for casino trip

The Mon Valley NAACP has seats available on a bus trip Oct. 3 to the Rivers Casino in Pittsburgh. The bus will depart from the Mon Valley Community Health Center, Monessen, at 9:30 a.m.; estimated return time is 7 p.m. Payment deadline is Sept. 28. For reservations, call (724) 684-8545.

Steak dinner set in Belle Vernon

The Belle Vernon Moose will host a steak dinner 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday. Proceeds will benefit Moose charities.

G-20 SUMMIT

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, Sept. 25, the 268th day of 2009. There are 97 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight

On Sept. 25, 1789, the first U.S. Congress adopted 12 amendments to the Constitution and sent them to the states for ratification. (Ten of the amendments became the Bill of Rights.)

On this date:

■ In 1513, Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa crossed the Isthmus of Panama and sighted the Pacific Ocean.

■ In 1775, American Revolutionary War hero Ethan Allen was captured by the British as he led an attack on Montreal. (Allen was released by the British in 1778.)

■ In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson collapsed after a speech in Pueblo, Colo., during a national speaking tour in support of the Treaty of Versailles.

■ In 1957, nine black students who'd been forced to withdraw from Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., because of unruly white crowds were escorted to class by members of the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division.

■ In 1959, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, nearing the end of his U.S. visit, began three days of talks with President Dwight D. Eisenhower at Camp David. The prime minister of Ceylon, S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, was shot and mortally wounded by a Buddhist monk. (The premier died the following day.)

■ In 1978, 144 people were killed when a Pacific Southwest Airlines Boeing 727 and a private plane collided over San Diego.

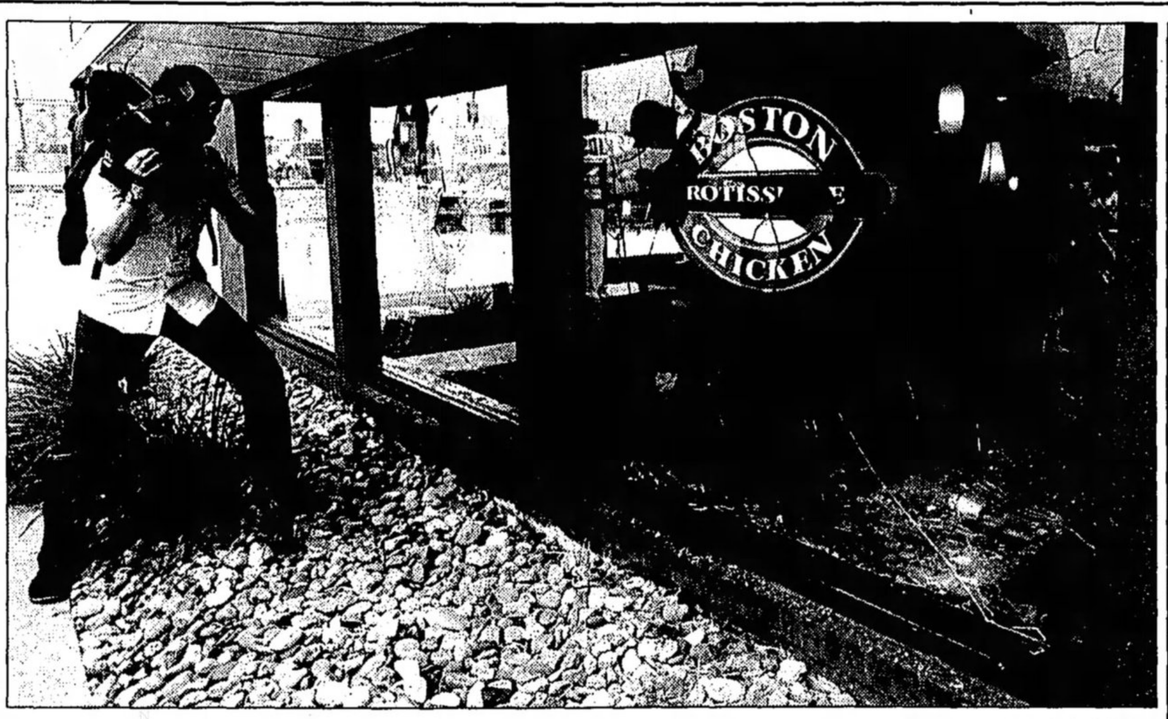
■ In 1979, the Andrew Lloyd Webber-Tim Rice musical "Evita," starring Patti LuPone as Eva Peron, opened on Broadway.

■ In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor was sworn in as the first female justice on the Supreme Court.

■ **Ten years ago**: Vice President Al Gore and former Sen. Bill Bradley squared off in back-to-back speeches to the Democratic National Committee as each sought support for his 2000 presidential campaign.

■ **Five years ago**: U.S. warplanes, tanks and artillery repeatedly hit at Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's terror network in the insurgent stronghold of Fallujah, Iraq.

■ **One year ago**: Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama sat down with President George W. Bush at the White House to discuss a multibillion-dollar Wall Street bailout plan, but the session, which also included top congressional leaders, devolved into what the McCain campaign described afterward as a "contentious shouting match."



Associated Press

A broken window is seen in the aftermath of a protest Thursday before the G-20 summit in Pittsburgh.

City braces for more clashes at G-20 summit

Mayor Luke Ravenstahl said police would be ready this morning.

By MICHAEL RUBINKAM and VICKI SMITH
Associated Press Writers

PITTSBURGH — Riot police turned back hundreds of protesters trying to march downtown on the first day of the Group of 20 summit Thursday, arresting nearly 20 people as authorities braced for smaller, scattered protests at dozens of businesses and organizations this morning.

Police, in an overwhelming show of force, declared the march illegal almost as soon as it began, firing rubber bullets and canisters of pepper spray and smoke after small bands of anarchists responded to calls to disperse by rolling huge metal trash bins, throwing rocks and breaking windows.

Mayor Luke Ravenstahl commended police for their "swift decisions to send a message to the anarchists that we will not tolerate unlawful behavior," adding there was minimal property damage as a result.

Pittsburgh Police Chief Nate Harper said 17 to 19 protesters were arrested and charged with misdemeanors, mainly failure to disperse and disorderly conduct.

Protesters complained about the city's response, saying their rights were trampled and that violence would not have broken out if police had allowed the marchers their say.

Jesse Ericson of the Pittsburgh G-20 Resistance Project, an umbrella organization of protest groups, condemned the city for a "bumbling and violent police action."

The G-20 Resistance Project encouraged "affinity groups" to protest this morning at companies that it says represent greed, exploitation, warfare and other social ills, with potential targets including banks, Starbucks, McDonald's, grocery stores and a Marine Corps recruiting center.

Ravenstahl said police were ready.

"We'll continue to make sure our neighborhoods are safe," he said.

Thursday afternoon's march turned chaotic at just about the time President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama arrived for a meeting with leaders of the world's major economies.

The clashes began after hundreds of protesters, many decrying capitalism, tried to march from an outlying neighborhood toward the convention center where the summit is being held.

The protesters clogged streets, banged on drums and chanted "Ain't no power like the power of the people, 'cause the power of the people don't stop."

The marchers included small groups of self-described anarchists, some wearing dark clothes, ski masks and bandanas and carrying black flags. Others wore helmets and safety goggles.

The marchers did not have a permit and, after a few blocks, police declared it an unlawful assembly. They played a recorded announcement over a loudspeaker ordering people to leave, as well as ear-piercing sirens, then police in riot gear moved in to break it up.

Protesters split into smaller groups. Some rolled large metal trash bins toward police, and a man in a black-hooded sweat shirt threw rocks at a police car from Charlotte, N.C., breaking the front windshield. Protesters broke windows in a few businesses, including a bank branch, a Boston Market restaurant and a BMW dealership.

Officers fired rubber bullets, pepper spray and smoke at the protesters and set off a flash-bang grenade. Some of those exposed to the pepper spray coughed and complained that their eyes were watering and stinging.

"The demonstrators were being aggressive toward the officers who felt it was necessary to utilize that kind of force," Harper said late Thursday.

G-20 spouses to take in art today

Warhol museum, CAPA are on Michelle Obama's agenda.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — From the pop artistry of the late Andy Warhol to the work of student performers, a display of arts was in store for the spouses of world leaders on the final day of an international economic summit.

First lady Michelle Obama, the hostess for the global gathering, was to take her counterparts on tours of the Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School and the Andy Warhol Museum today.

Art and arts education in school are subjects of interest to Mrs. Obama.

Pittsburgh CAPA, a nationally recognized magnet school similar to the one in the movie "Fame," has more than 800 sixth- through 12th-graders majoring in dance, acting, instrumental and vocal music and other creative arts.

Spouses will visit various classrooms to watch students rehearse performances. They also will see a show organized by Mrs. Obama featuring performances by students and such noted musical artists as cellist Yo-Yo Ma, country superstar Trisha Yearwood and singer-songwriter Sara Bareilles.

Afterward comes a tour of the Warhol museum.

The seven-story museum houses the art collection and archives of the late 20th century pop artist and Pittsburgh native. The spouses will get a chance to try the silk-screen printing technique Warhol popularized and peruse items from one of more than 600 cardboard "time-capsule" boxes Warhol used to store his keepsakes.

In one of those boxes, archivists found $17,000 in cash. The big discovery in another box was a piece of crusty cake from Caroline Kennedy's 1986 wedding to Edwin Schlossberg.

Summit (FROM PAGE ONE)

The limo was part of a 37-vehicle motorcade that included more than a half-dozen SUVs carrying security personnel and numerous vans and small buses with members of the Obama administration.

The president did not speak with the media at the airport but later told reporters he was sorry they had to wait in the steady rain as world leaders entered Phipps. Those making an appearance at Phipps last night included Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, French President Nicolas Sarkozy and his wife, Carla Bruni.

The former model wore a simple, dark blue sheath and laughed as she was greeted by the first lady, who wore a long pearl necklace and a Grecian-style draped dress in a beige and pink print, with spaghetti straps. The first lady's dress was designed by Thakoon Panichgul, who outfitted her for the final night of the Democratic National Convention and the first debate between her husband and John McCain.

"We're having a good time tomorrow," Bruni said, an apparent reference to the spouses planned tour of Pittsburgh's Creative and Performing Arts High School today.

The finance ministers, including Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, arrived separately at Phipps' southeast entrance on Wilmont Road. They ascended a short flight of steps to a sky-blue, carpeted walkway lined on one side by 26 flags — the G-20 nations and European Union, the United Nations and other invited nations.

Earlier in the day, Air Force Col. Gordon H. Elwell Jr. and his wife, Jane, greeted the Obamas and, in typical Pittsburgh fashion, the conversation instantly turned to football.

Elwell, commander of the 911th Airlift Wing, teased Obama for rooting for the Chicago Bears when they played the Steelers last weekend. Obama has said he long has supported the Bears, but cheers for the Steelers any other time.

"I told him, 'It was well known you supported the Steelers in the Super Bowl,'" Elwell said. "He said the Bears are the one exception."

A chemical de-icing agent caused a persistent onion odor near an airport building off Business Route 60, giving the impression that onions were being sauteed as dignitaries arrived. Officials attributed it to a nearby facility that makes meals for airlines, but later amended their explanation.

"It's annoying, but it's not dangerous," said airport spokeswoman JoAnn Jenny.

Uniformed service members from the armed forces welcomed each delegation, holding poles with the arriving nations' flags and the American flag. Motorcades of eight to 10 vehicles — limos, vans, SUVs and state police cruisers — escorted each delegation to Downtown, with rolling closures of the Parkway West turning traffic on the highway from a steady stream to a stutter. PennDOT officials said traffic delays were minimal, because of lighter-than-normal traffic all day.

As delegates and their aides arrived Downtown, their vehicles went through an electronic security gate next to the former Lord and Taylor department store on Smithfield Street at Fifth Avenue. Secret Service agents and bomb-sniffing dogs checked them from engines to trunks.

Yesterday's events ended with a private dinner for spouses of G-20 leaders hosted by Michelle Obama at Rosemont Farm, the Fox Chapel home of philanthropist Teresa Heinz.

The first lady, among her official G-20 duties, chose gifts to present to visiting foreign dignitaries that are both personal and historical, the White House reported.

A one-of-a-kind porcelain tea set, honey made from the White House beehive and a glass honey vase will be given in keeping with one of the oldest traditions of international protocol.

Honey produced for the gifts came from a beehive near the first lady's White House Kitchen Garden.

'PENNSYLVANIA CASH 5'

'Cash 5' jackpot at least $225,000

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Today's "Pennsylvania Cash 5" jackpot will be worth at least $225,000 because no player matched the five winning numbers drawn in Thursday's game.

Lottery officials said 114 players matched four numbers and won $131.50 each; 3,154 players matched three numbers and won $8 each; and 33,911 players matched two numbers and won $1 each.

The Valley Independent Lottery Results

PENNSYLVANIA — DAILY NUMBERS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

DAY PICK 3:	7-7-4
NIGHT PICK 3:	0-7-6
DAY PICK BIG 4:	4-8-8-9
NIGHT PICK BIG 4:	3-7-6-9
DAY QUINTO:	4-9-8-5-9
NIGHT QUINTO:	5-8-8-2-9
TREASURE HUNT:	8-18-22-27-30
CASH 5:	7-9-15-22-23
MIX & MATCH:	1-19-6-17-12

OHIO — DAILY NUMBERS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

DAY PICK 3:	0-7-9
NIGHT PICK 3:	9-0-1
DAY PICK 4:	1-4-9-4
NIGHT PICK 4:	7-3-5-1
ROLLING CASH 5:	2-14-22-24-30

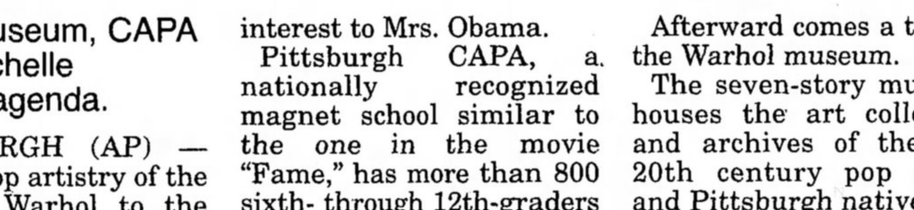
WEST VIRGINIA — DAILY NUMBERS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

DAILY 3:	8-0-3
DAILY 4:	4-6-5-8
CASH 25:	4-16-17-19-22-23

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of winning numbers and prize payouts. In the event of a discrepancy, the official and certified files maintained by the Pennsylvania Lottery's Security Office shall prevail.

Find your place here.



Discovery Days – Oct. 3 & 12

Come to Cal U's Discovery Day Open House and unlock the door to opportunity. Tour our new residence halls, explore the campus, talk to our students. You'll find that all our doors are open on Discovery Day. Including the one to your future.

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Eastgate 19, Monessen Pennsylvania 15062
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Telephone: (724) 684-5200 Fax: (724) 684-2603 E-Mail: valley@tribweb.com

Richard M. Scaife, Publisher Inc., Publisher
Robert R. Hammond, General Manager

Robert L. Burke, Managing Editor
Karen Strickland, Advertising Manager
Richard W. Guthrie, Production Manager
Linda G. Hutchison, Circulation Manager
Mary Kozel, Accountant

OUR OPINION

The continuing threat: A new plot

What little is known about what federal authorities describe as a bombing plot with al-Qaida links is a sobering reminder that this nation can't let down its guard against the continuing, all-too-real threat of Islamist terrorism on U.S. soil.

Three Afghans, all legal U.S. residents, are charged with making false statements to federal authorities: Najibullah Zazi, 24, and his father, Mohammed Wali Zazi, 53, both of Colorado, and Ahmad Wais Afzali, 37, imam of a Queens, N.Y., mosque and a past police informant.

They maintain their innocence. Known evidence suggests otherwise.

Intelligence was gleaned from electronic intercepts, surveillance and interviews. Najibullah Zazi admitted training in weapons and explosives last year at an al-Qaida camp in Pakistan. His laptop contained images of notes, likely in his own handwriting, on making explosives and fuses.

And a small electronic scale and AA batteries, both often used to make bombs, bore his fingerprints.

Hopefully, the continuing investigation will reveal all participants in the plot and its full extent including its targets, now thought to be New York City subway stations and/or other sites crowded with civilians. (That said, transit systems nationwide have been placed on alert.)

The more that authorities can tell the public about this plot, the better will be Americans' grasp of why maintaining post-9/11 vigilance is so vitally important.

Do you agree? Do you disagree? The Valley Independent wants to hear from you. E-mail us at valleyletters@tribweb. com or write a letter to the editor. Include your phone number to allow for verification. Please limit letters to 350 words. We reserve the right to edit.

YOUR OPINION

Cultural Heritage Festival entertaining

To the Editor:

My son and his wife were in town visiting us recently and we decided to take a ride to Monessen to the Cultural Heritage Festival.

We spent time wandering through the craft and food booths and we were entertained for over an hour by the sounds of the Jerry Jumba Orchestra.

It was a beautiful festival and great ethnic music.

We hope that Monessen continues to celebrate this annual event because we must keep our ethnic background alive for generations to come. We all look forward to attending this festival next year and making this an annual outing.

George Koleck
Roscoe

Still haunted by President Bush

To the Editor:

I'm sure if you checked, you would find a majority of U.S. citizens agree that George Bush was the worst president we ever had during the glorious history of our country.

He was in it for himself. His main goal was tax breaks for his rich friends. He didn't care about sending our troops to war to be killed. His attempts to look good made him look all the worse.

John Kerry would have been an excellent president, but Bush fooled us all.

I'm sure President Obama will show us what a good president is like.

John Micjan
Elco

How to reach us

The Valley Independent welcomes the input of our readers. Letters, e-mails and faxes must be signed and should include an address and daytime telephone number so the content of the message can be verified. (Phone numbers will not be published.)

Send your comments:

— By mail to Your Opinion, *The Valley Independent,* Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa. 15062.

— By e-mail to valley@tribweb.com

— By fax to (724) 684-2603.

All messages are subject to editing for clarification, brevity and libel. Messages should be kept to 300 words. (No poetry, please.)

While letters usually are published in order of submission, those concerning timely local issues are given priority.

Black Sea wars

Pat **BUCHANAN**

In August, the Georgian navy seized a Turkish tanker carrying fuel to Abkhazia, Georgia's former province whose declaration of independence a year ago is recognized by Russia but not the West.

The Turkish captain was sentenced to 24 years. When Ankara protested, he was released. Abkhazia has now threatened to sink any Georgian ship interfering in its "territorial waters," but it has no navy.

Russia, however, has a Black Sea Fleet and a treaty of friendship with Abkhazia, and has notified Tbilisi that the Russian coast guard will assure, peacefully, the sea commerce of Abkhazia.

Not backing down, Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili — who launched and lost a war for South Ossetia in 48 hours in August 2008 — has declared the blockade of Abkhazia, which he claims as Georgian national territory, will remain in force. And he has just appointed as defense minister a 29-year-old ex-penitentiary boss with a questionable record on human rights who wants to tighten ties to NATO.

We have here the makings of a naval clash that Georgia, given Russian air, naval and land forces in the eastern Black Sea, will lose.

What is Saakashvili up to? He seems intent on provoking a new crisis to force NATO to stand with him and bring the United States in on his side — against Russia. Ultimate goal: Return the issue of his lost provinces of Abkhazia and South Ossetia back onto the world's front burner.

While such a crisis may be in the interests of Saakashvili and his Russophobic U.S neoconservative retainers, it is the furthest thing from U.S. national interests. President Obama should have Joe Biden, Saakashvili's pal, phone him up and instruct him thus:

"Mikheil, if you interfere with the sea commerce of Abkhazia, and provoke Russia into a Black Sea war, you fight it yourself. The Sixth Fleet is not going to steam into the Black Sea and pull your chestnuts out of the fire, old buddy. It will be your war, not ours."

Nor is the Abkhazian crisis the only one brewing in the Black Sea.

Last month, Russian naval troops blocked Ukrainian bailiffs from seizing navigational equipment from a lighthouse outside Sevastopol, the Crimean base of Russia's Black Sea Fleet for two centuries.

The Sevastopol lease, however, runs out in 2017. And Kiev has informed Moscow there will be no renewal. Russia's fleet will have to vacate Sevastopol and the Crimea, which belonged to Russia before Nikita Khrushchev ceded the entire peninsula to Ukraine in 1954 in a "brotherly gesture" while Ukraine was still part of the Soviet Union.

Russia also bears a deep animus toward Ukrainian President Victor Yushchenko, for trying to bring his country into NATO.

Yushchenko, whose approval rating is in single digits, has been seen, ever since the U.S.-backed Orange Revolution of 2004 that brought him to power, as America's man in Kiev.

Moreover, as religious, cultural, ethnic and historic ties between Kiev and Moscow go back centuries, Russians remain unreconciled to the loss of what they regard as the cradle of their country.

What is America's vital interest in all these quarrels? Zero.

The idea, mentioned in hawkish quarters, of having the Sixth Fleet take over the vacated naval base at Sevastopol would be as rash and provocative an act as having Chinese warships move into Guantanamo, were Havana to expel the United States.

But that is unlikely to happen. For Obama appears to be rolling back the George W. Bush policy of expanding NATO into former republics of the Soviet Union.

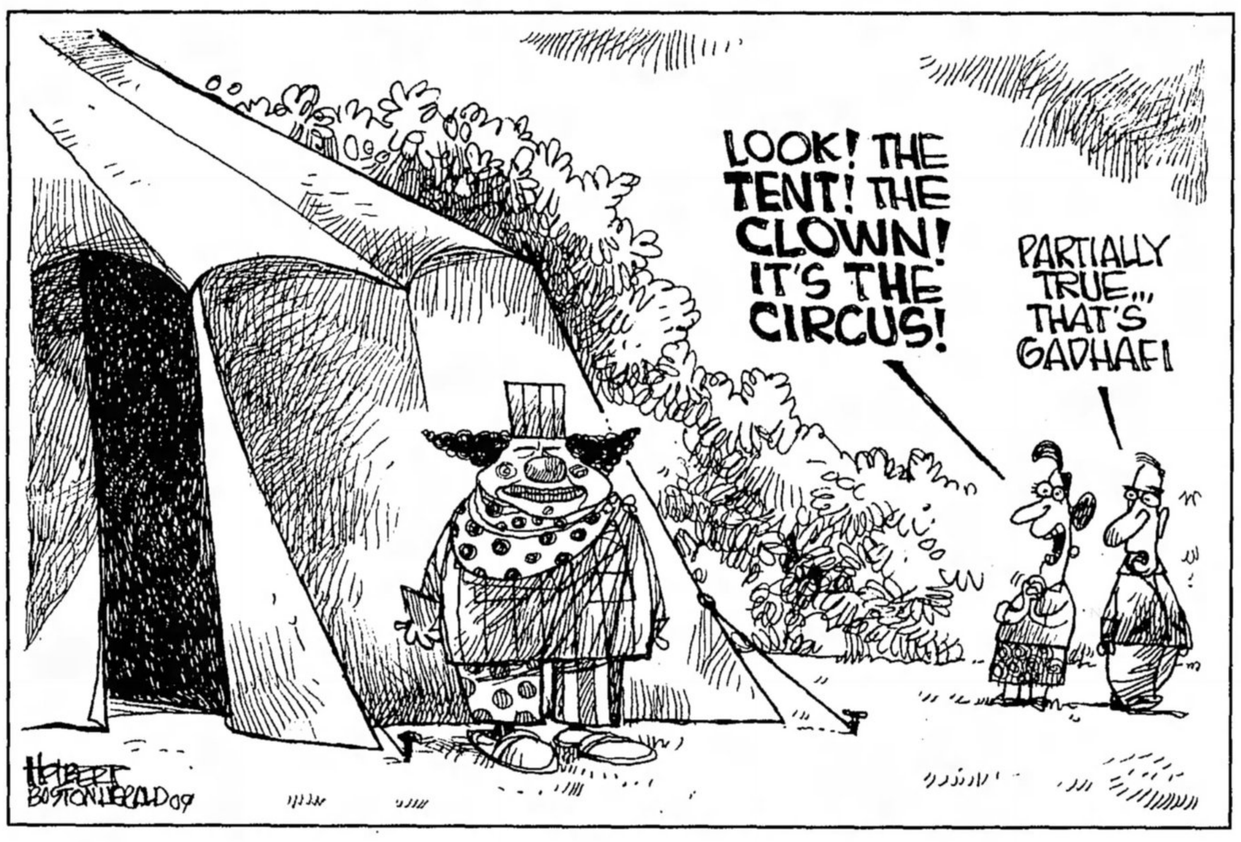
Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia are already members, and Bush and John McCain were anxious to bring in Ukraine and Georgia. But, as Bush's inaction during the Russia-Georgia war revealed, America is not going to fight Russia over who controls Abkhazia, North or South Ossetia, Dagestan, Ingushetia, Chechnya or Georgia. All are beyond any vital interest or legitimate sphere of influence of the United States.

With his cancellation of the U.S. missile shield in Poland and the Czech Republic — a shield designed to defend against a nonexistent Iranian ICBM — Obama sent two message to Moscow.

First, Obama believes entente with Russia is a surer guarantee of the peace and security of Eastern Europe than any U.S. weapons system. Second, Obama puts Washington-Moscow ties before any U.S. military ties to NATO allies in Eastern Europe.

Which means NATO is approaching an existential crisis.

Almost all NATO troops, except U.S., are gone from Iraq, and the alliance's minimal commitment to Afghanistan is ending with no victory in sight. NATO's expansion eastward has come to a halt. Ukraine and Georgia are not coming in.



Conservative case against Bush

Byron **York**

How many times during the past eight years did you hear that former President Bush was a dangerous right-wing extremist? Probably too many to count.

What you heard less often were expressions of the deep reservations some conservatives felt about Bush's governing philosophy.

Conservatives greatly admired Bush for his steadfastness in the War on Terror — to use that outlawed phrase — and they were delighted by his choices of John Roberts and Samuel Alito for the Supreme Court.

But when it came to a fundamental conservative principle such as fiscal discipline, many conservatives felt that president just wasn't with them.

You saw that throughout the 2008 Republican presidential primaries, when GOP candidates, while not mentioning Bush specifically, got big applause from conservative Republican audiences by pledging to return fiscal responsibility to the White House.

Those cheering conservatives will find a revealing moment in a new book by former White House speechwriter Matt Latimer, a veteran of conservative politics. An admirer of Republican Sen. Jon Kyl, for whom he worked for several years, Latimer also worked in the Rumsfeld Pentagon before joining the Bush White House in 2007.

The revealing moment, described in "Speechless: Tales of a White House Survivor," occurred in the Oval Office in early 2008. Bush was preparing to give a speech to the annual meeting of the Conservative Political Action Conference, or CPAC. The conference is the event of the year for conservative activists; Republican politicians are required to appear and offer their praise of the conservative movement.

Latimer got the assignment to write Bush's speech. Draft in hand, he and a few other writers met with the president in the Oval Office. Bush was decidedly unenthusiastic.

"What is this movement you keep talking about in the speech?" the president asked Latimer.

Latimer explained that he meant the conservative movement — the movement that gave rise to groups such as CPAC.

Bush seemed perplexed. Latimer elaborated a bit more. Then Bush leaned forward, with a point to make.

"Let me tell you something," the president said. "I whupped Gary Bauer's ass in 2000. So take out all this movement stuff. There is no movement."

Bush seemed to equate the conservative movement — the astonishing growth of conservative political strength that took place in the decades after Barry Goldwater's disastrous defeat in 1964 — with the fortunes of Bauer, the evangelical Christian activist and former head of the Family Research Council, whose 2000 presidential campaign went nowhere.

Now it was Latimer who looked perplexed. Bush tried to explain.

"Look, I know this probably sounds arrogant to say," the president said, "but I redefined the Republican Party."

The Oval Office is no place for a low-ranking White House staffer to get into an argument with the president of the United States about the state of the Republican Party — or about any other subject, for that matter. Latimer made the changes the president wanted. When Bush appeared at CPAC, he made no mention of the conservative movement. In fact, he said the word "conservative" only once, in the last paragraph.

Bush veterans are going to take issue with some of Latimer's criticisms in "Speechless." As an observer of it all, I certainly don't agree with his characterizations of some Bush administration officials. But looking back at the Bush years, the scene in the Oval Office adds context to the debate that is going on inside conservative circles today.

Right after the Republican Party's across-the-board defeat last November, there was a wave of what-went-wrong self-analysis. Republicans were divided between those who believed the party had lost touch with conservative principles and those who believed it had failed to adapt to changed political and demographic circumstances.

Bush's words in the Oval Office speak directly to that first group. You can argue whether Bush was a fiscal conservative at any time in his political career, but he certainly wasn't in the White House. And some real fiscal conservatives, with their guy in charge, held their tongues.

Dems trying to sell health plan to seniors

Polls show people over 65 have the most negative views about overhauling health care.

By ALAN FRAM
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The White House and Democrats are laboring to attract skeptical seniors to their drive to reshape the nation's health care system, leading some to press the behemoth but reluctant AARP to be more aggressive about backing them.

Polls show people age 65 and up — the only age group that preferred Republican presidential candidate John McCain last November — have also had the most negative views about President Barack Obama's attempt to overhaul health care. Among that age group, six in 10 disapprove of the job Obama is doing on health care and about the same number oppose the plans being considered in Congress, according to an Associated Press-GfK poll earlier this month.

To help combat that, some Democrats are prodding AARP, formerly known as the American Association of Retired Persons, to explicitly endorse their plans. While actively supporting the overall health care effort and many of Democrats' specific proposals in an expensive public relations effort, AARP officials are resisting taking partisan sides in the sharply political debate, at least for now.

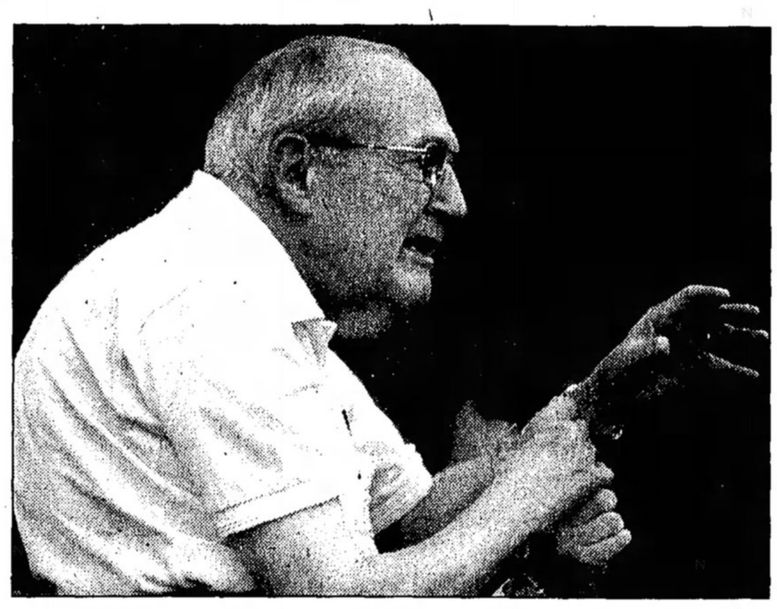
"Our focus is on issues," said Nancy Leamond, who oversees AARP's health care lobbying. "It's not on any particular political party, and it's not on any particular member (of Congress) and his or her proposal."

In the administration's latest attempt to win over seniors nervous about cuts in Medicare, Vice President Joe Biden visited a Maryland retirement community on Wednesday and told them, "Nobody is going to mess with your benefits. Nobody. All we do is make it better for people on Medicare."

AARP is a tempting target as Democrats search for allies with influence among the nation's elderly. The organization has 40 million members age 50 and up with whom it has unparalleled credibility — many of whom consistently vote.

"Even if they didn't take a side, just to provide factual information to their membership I think would be a tremendous help," Rep. Raul Grijalva, D-Ariz., a leader of the liberal Progressive Caucus, said of AARP. "Because they're seen as unbiased and they're seen as advocates for older Americans."

That message was also delivered to AARP last Thursday, when House Democratic leaders brought Leamond and A. Barry Rand, AARP's CEO, to a meeting on health care with rank-and-file Democrats, participants said. In addition, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., said he has met with AARP executives "and certainly have urged them to weigh in as heavily as they can."



Associated Press

Bernie Siegel, 87, asks Vice President Joe Biden a question about the proposed health care reforms at Leisure World in Silver Spring, Md., earlier this week.

The sheer size that gives AARP clout also often ties its hands when it comes to deciding whether to back specific bills in Congress, a frequent source of frustration for both political parties in Washington. The organization says its membership is divided about evenly among Democrats, Republicans and independents — meaning any endorsement of a partisan position is likely to anger many AARP members.

AARP officials say 60,000 of its members quit between early July and mid-August citing its support for a health overhaul, though it picked up 400,000 new members during the same period and renewed 1.4 million other memberships. They did not respond when asked to provide more current figures.

Democrats are not solely looking to AARP for help in winning over seniors. The labor-backed Alliance for Retired Americans, along with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, have produced a video featuring Lynda Bird Johnson Robb discussing the struggles her father, President Lyndon Johnson, faced in the 1960s during his battle to create Medicare. The National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, another advocacy group, is mailing a brochure that generally supports the health overhaul to its 800,000 members.

None, though, compare to AARP.

Though it makes no campaign contributions, AARP's $1.1 billion in annual revenue affords it a deep-pocketed operation. In July, it reported 33 lobbyists working on health care and spending $9.4 million lobbying in the first half of the year — ninth highest of all organizations in Washington, according to the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics. The expenditures include money for 70 town hall meetings around the country, 60 others held by telephone that the group says attracted 1 million callers, and millions of mailings to its members.

Its spending has also included $10 million on TV ads on health care this year through Sept. 20, putting it among the top five spenders in the television health care wars, according to Evan Tracey, president of the Campaign Media Analysis Group, which tracks political advertising.

"As Washington continues the debate over health care reform, AARP has chosen a side — yours," one of its latest TV ads reassures seniors.

AARP's huge budget has long been a source of contention. AARP financial documents show that of its $1.1 billion in revenue last year, more than half — $653 million — came from royalties it earned by letting private health insurance companies and other firms use AARP's name in selling their products.

Critics say that can't help but make AARP less aggressive about pushing for reforms that might hurt the profits of insurers. AARP officials say their business partners do not affect the positions they take on legislation.

"We are a social mission organization at our roots," Leamond said. "Here, policy always trumps everything."

Though AARP hasn't endorsed Obama's health care drive, many of its priorities are reflected in Democratic bills, including reducing gaps in Medicare prescription drug coverage and eliminating Medicare patients' costs for preventive care.

This has led some Republicans to question AARP's true loyalties.

"My sense is clearly that they were brought in early on in the discussions and they bought into what the president's bill was about," said Rep. Eric Cantor of Virginia, the No. 2 House GOP leader.

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

Here's a riundown on activities scheduled at local senior centers for next week:

CENTER IN THE WOODS

Monday – 7:30, walking; 8, lab services; 9, beauty shop; 10, watercolor; 1, German choir, cards, choir; 7, hatha yoga.

Tuesday – 7:30, walking; 8, lab services; 9, beauty shop, silver sneakers; 10, zumba gold; 11, healthy steps; 1, bingo, cards, dart ball, news/views.

Wednesday – 7:30, walking; 9, beauty shop; 10, oil painting; 10:30, Bible study; 10, oil painting; 1, bingo/dinner, cards; 3, basket guild.

Thursday – 7:30, walking; 8, lab services; 9, beauty shop, silver sneakers; 11, healthy steps; 1, cards, bingo, jam.

Friday – Black and Gold Day every Friday; 7:30, walking; 9, beauty shop; 1, dart ball, Bible study.

BROWNSVILLE

Monday – 10:30, games and socializing; 12:30, bingo.

Tuesday – 10, ceramics, 10:30, skat and socializing; 1, bingo.

Wednesday – 10:30, games and socializing; 11:15, sit 'n fit exercise class; 11:45, wild pill drawing and lucky five drawing; 1, bowling and bingo.

Thursday – 10:30, skat and socializing; 12:30, cards and bingo.

Friday – 10, skat, pokeno and socializing; 1, bingo.

DONORA

Monday – 10, line dancing; 11-1, blood pressures; 11:45, bingo; 1, bingo.

Tuesday – 11:45, bingo; 1, cards and pokeno, bingo.

Wednesday – 10, beginners' line dancing; 11:45, bingo.

Thursday – 11:45, bingo; 1, cards and pokeno.

Friday – 11:45, bingo.

CENTER ON THE HILL

Monday – 10:30, bingo, 11, canasta; 12:45, euchre; 6:30, pinochle.

Tuesday – 9:30, video exercise; 10:30, bingo; 11, crafts; 12:30-4:30, AARP driver safety refresher course; 1, card club; pinochle; 7, euchre.

Wednesday – 10:30, bingo, Bible study; 1, country jam session.

Thursday – 9:30, video exercise; 10:30, bingo.

Friday – 10:30, bingo.

RIVERSIDE PLACE (CHARLEROI)

Monday – 8:30, fitness room; 9, dance town; 10, yoga classes, exercise for arthritis; 11:30, bingo; 1, darts; 4:45, zumba; Wii, jigsaw puzzles.

Tuesday – 8:30, fitness room; 9, dance town; 11:30, bingo; jigsaw puzzles; Wii (video games); 5, yoga.

Wednesday – 8:30, fitness room; 9, dance town; 11, silver sneakers; 11:30, bingo; 1, big bingo, Wii; jigsaw puzzles; 7, MV Community Band rehearsals.

Thursday – 8:30, fitness room; 9, dance town; 10, exercise for arthritis; 11:30, bingo; Wii; jigsaw puzzles; 1, darts.

Friday – 8:30, fitness room; 9, dance town; 11:30, bingo; jigsaw puzzles; Wii.

MONONGAHELA

Monday – 11:30, bingo; 1, cards; jigsaw puzzles.

Tuesday – 9, crafts; 11:30, bingo; 1:30, bingo; 1, cards, darts; jigsaw puzzles; 6, Thursday evening social.

Wednesday – dominoes, 11:30, bingo; 1, cards; jigsaw puzzles.

Thursday – 11:30, bingo; 1, cards; jigsaw puzzles; 6, Thursday night social.

Friday – 9-noon, flu shots (pre-registration necessary); 11:30, bingo; 1, cards, jigsaw puzzles.

PERRYOPOLIS

Monday – 9, poker club, card club; 10, healthy steps; 1, cards and table games; jigsaw puzzles.

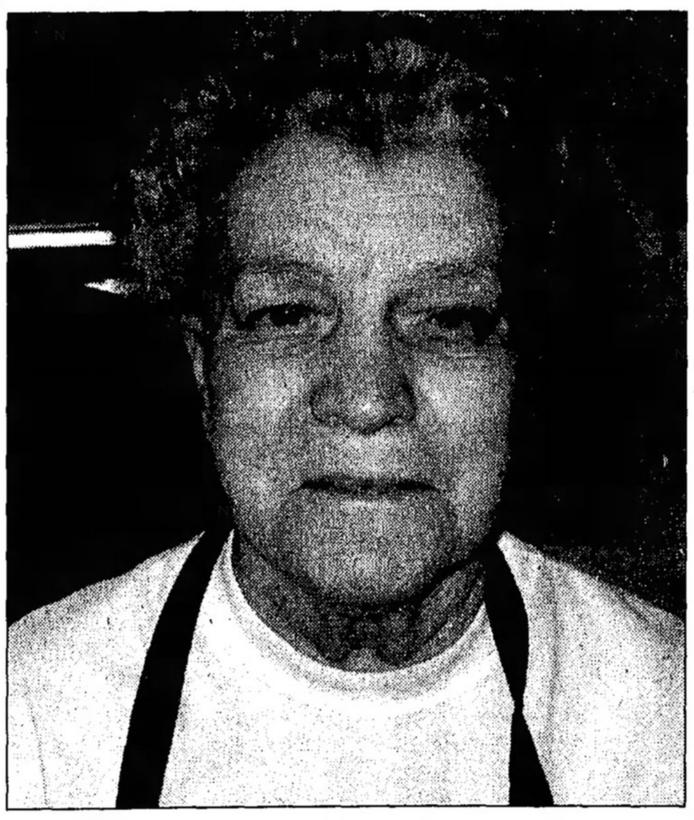
Tuesday – 8, walking; 10, sing along, pinochle, singalong; 1, pickin and grinning; jigsaw puzzles.

Wednesday – 8, walking; 9:30, bingo, jigsaw puzzles.

Thursday – 8, walking; 9, ceramics; 10, healthy steps; 1, crafts; jigsaw puzzles.

Friday – 8, walking; 9:30, bingo; jigsaw puzzles.

Senior Snapshot



Margaret Swaka, 80, of California

Her most memorable historic moment was seeing President Theodore Roosevelt visit the steel mill in Homestead. Sawka said she later saw President Harry Truman when he stopped in Braddock.

Read each Friday as older Valley residents recall the most memorable moments in their lives.

SENIOR CENTER MENUS

Here's a look at lunch menus planned for local senior citizen centers for next week:

Center on the Hill, Donora, Monongahela, Perryopolis and Riverside Place

Monday: Rigatoni and-meatballs
Tuesday: Hot dogs
Wednesday: Ppork chop
Thursday: Swiss steak
Friday: Fish sandwich

Monessen and West Newton

Monday: Chef salad
Tuesday: Pizza
Wednesday: Fried steak
Thursday: Meatloaf
Friday: Rigatoni

Seeking exports

Do you know of someone who once lived in the Mon Valley, but moved on to forge a life elsewhere?

Is that person involved in an interesting or successful career?

If so, we would like to hear from you. Your friend could be featured in Valley Exports.

To submit a name, call Joe Abramowitz at (724) 684-2634.

You also can email to jabramowitz@tribweb.com.

INNOVATIONS IN H1N1 FLU TREATMENT

Wednesday, October 7 at 6 p.m.

Jeffrey R. James, M.D., board-certified in infectious disease and internal medicine, along with a team of health care professionals will present a free program to recognize the risk factors for the **Novel H1N1 (Swine Flu) virus** and discuss immunization and the role of the MVH Infection Control Department in treatment.

This program is part of MVH's Innovations series featuring physician guest speakers providing medical information to the community.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

CALL 724-258-1234 FOR RESERVATIONS.

MVH Monongahela Valley Hospital HEALTH CARE

Anthony M. Lombardi Education Conference Center at Monongahela Valley Hospital

COMICS

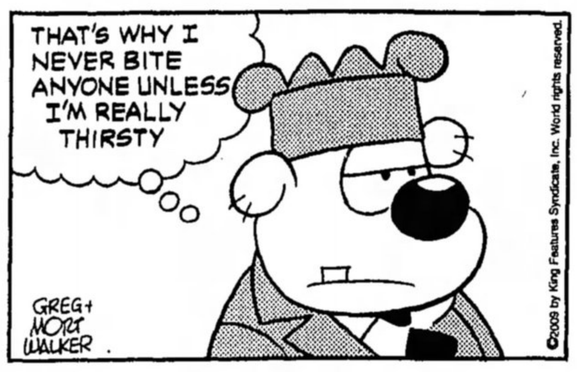
CATHY® by Cathy Guisewite

MAY I HELP YOU?
YES! WHAT AM I DOING HERE??
SHOES
WHAT POSSESSED ME TO DRIVE TO THE MALL WHEN I'VE VOWED TO NOT SPEND?! WHAT COULD I POSSIBLY THINK I NEED?? WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?!
THE CHUNKY-SOLED OXFORD ANKLE BOOTIE WOULD BE DARLING WITH ALL THAT!
CU-U-UTE!
FOOTWEAR ALWAYS HAS ANSWERS.

ARLO and JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson

WHEN DESKTOPS CAME OUT, I WAS ALL OVER IT!
BUT TODAY—SMARTPHONES AND MP3 PLAYERS AND PDA'S—I'M LOST!
Johnson 9/25 ©2009 by NEA, Inc.
WHY IS THAT STUFF SO MUCH HARDER FOR ME TO LEARN?
WELL, A DESKTOP WAS DIFFICULT TO THROW...

BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker

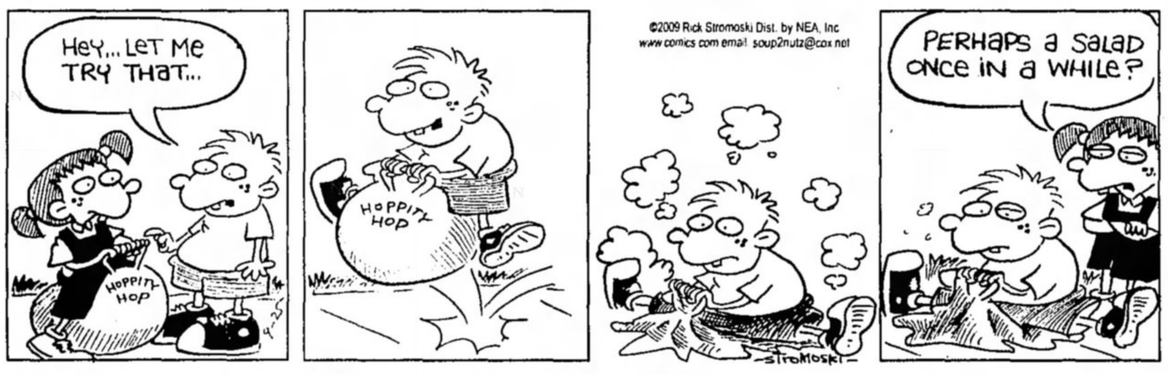

THAT'S WHY I NEVER BITE ANYONE UNLESS I'M REALLY THIRSTY
GREG+ MORT WALKER
©2009 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr

FRANK and ERNEST® by Bob Thaves

I ENVY HIM--- HE NEVER HAS A PROBLEM WITH PRIORITIES.
THAVES 9-25
E-mail: ThavesOne@aol.com ©2009 Thaves / Dist. by NEA, Inc. www.comics.com

SOUP TO NUTZ™ by Rick Stromoski


Hey... LET ME TRY THAT...
HOPPITY HOP
©2009 Rick Stromoski Dist. by NEA, Inc. www.comics.com email: soup2nutz@cox.net
PERHAPS A SALAD ONCE IN A WHILE?
Stromoski

BIG NATE® by Lincolin Peirce

HI, I'M DOING A SURVEY. WHO'S GOING TO GET YOUR VOTE FOR CLASS PRESIDENT?
UH... WHO'S RUNNING?
MARCUS, LISA AND NATE.
WHO'S NATE?
HE'S GOT SPIKY HAIR, HE'S IN MRS. GODFREY'S HOMEROOM, HE...
OHHH, YEAH! THE DETENTION KID!
IN THE "NAME RECOGNITION" DEPARTMENT, I'VE GOT GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS.
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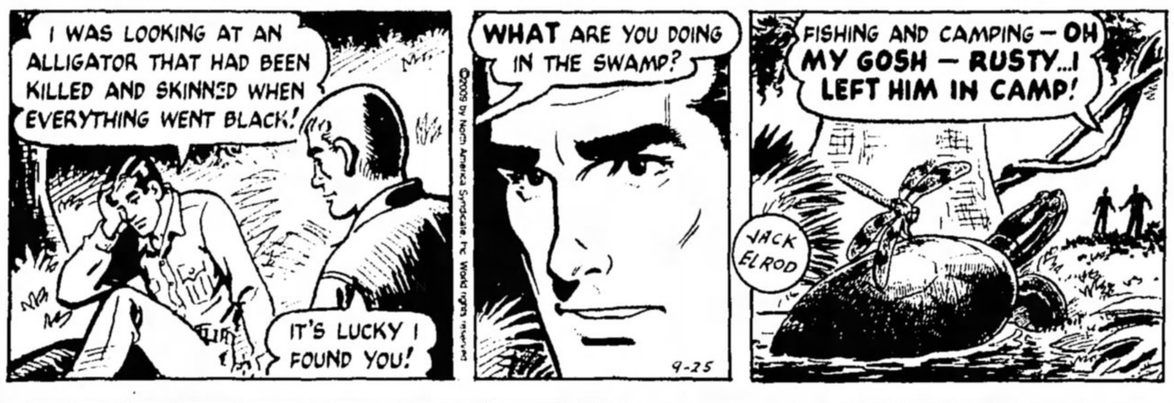
MARK TRAIL® by Jack Elrod


I WAS LOOKING AT AN ALLIGATOR THAT HAD BEEN KILLED AND SKINNED WHEN EVERYTHING WENT BLACK!
IT'S LUCKY I FOUND YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THE SWAMP?
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9-25
FISHING AND CAMPING — OH MY GOSH — RUSTY...I LEFT HIM IN CAMP!
JACK ELROD

GARFIELD® by Jim Davis

Classic PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz

THERE'S A BUNCH OF BIRD WATCHERS OUT TODAY..
www.snoopy.com
THEY'LL BE TAKING PICTURES SO YOU SHOULD GET OUT AND START FLYING AROUND..
9-25-09
THAT'S NOT EXACTLY WHAT I MEANT..
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SCHULZ

HI & LOIS® by Mort Walker and Dick Browne

I FOUND THESE IN YOUR COAT POCKET!
MR. THURSTON GAVE ME AN OLD PACK...
9-25
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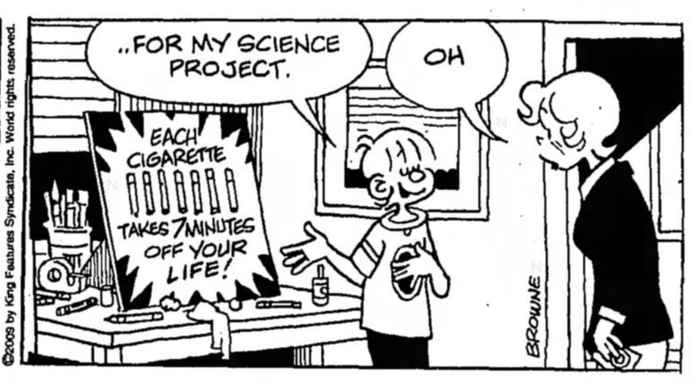

BORN LOSER® by Art Sansom

I HAVE DISCOVERED WHAT MAKES YOU TICK, THORNAPPLE!
Art/Chip 9/25
THAT'S GOOD NEWS, RIGHT, DOC?
© 2009 by NEA, Inc. www.comics.com
NOT ENTIRELY—I ALSO FOUND YOU ARE RUNNING FIVE MINUTES SLOW! HA, HA! THAT'S A JOKE—GET IT?

BLONDIE® by Young and Marshall

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU SAID A PRAYER TO WIN YOUR ROUND OF GOLF TOMORROW
YOU SHOULD ASK FOR MORE IMPORTANT THINGS THAN A ROUND OF GOLF, YOU KNOW
THAT'S A GOOD POINT, HONEY
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9-25
THERE'S THIS REALLY BIG OFFICE BOWLING TOURNAMENT NEXT WEEK, AND...
www.Blondie.com

KIT'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

"Was I s'posed to like this dinner or not?"

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

			9	4	8	5	7	3
				6	1	8		
			5					
		7						4
	8						2	
1						6		
					6			
		9	2	8				
2	6	4	3	9	7			

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Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/25

Answer to previous puzzle

4	8	2	1	9	3	7	5	6
9	7	3	4	5	6	2	8	1
5	1	6	2	7	8	3	9	4
7	6	4	5	8	1	9	3	2
1	3	5	6	2	9	8	4	7
2	9	8	3	4	7	1	6	5
6	2	9	7	3	4	5	1	8
8	4	7	9	1	5	6	2	3
3	5	1	8	6	2	4	7	9

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Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/24

The Valley Independent Crossword

ACROSS

1 Baby grizzly
4 Torme or Gibson
7 The lady
10 Frat letter
11 Click-on item
13 Biggers' sleuth
14 Not thither
15 Ad award
16 Pretoria coin
17 Most tomatoes
19 Gen. — Halftrack
20 Long-handled implement
21 Ho-hum feeling
23 Once again
26 Car model
28 Marvy
29 Gore- —
30 Kind of cab
34 Concrete reinforcer
36 Dawn goddess
38 Mouths, in zoology
39 Do a double-take
41 Pipe problem
42 Sheba, today
44 Yes, in Yokohama
46 Broad bean
47 Mischief-maker
51 Had bills
52 "Run — Run"
53 Python
55 Lawless role
56 House wings
57 Moray
58 Fabric meas.
59 Part of UCLA
60 Sweater sizes

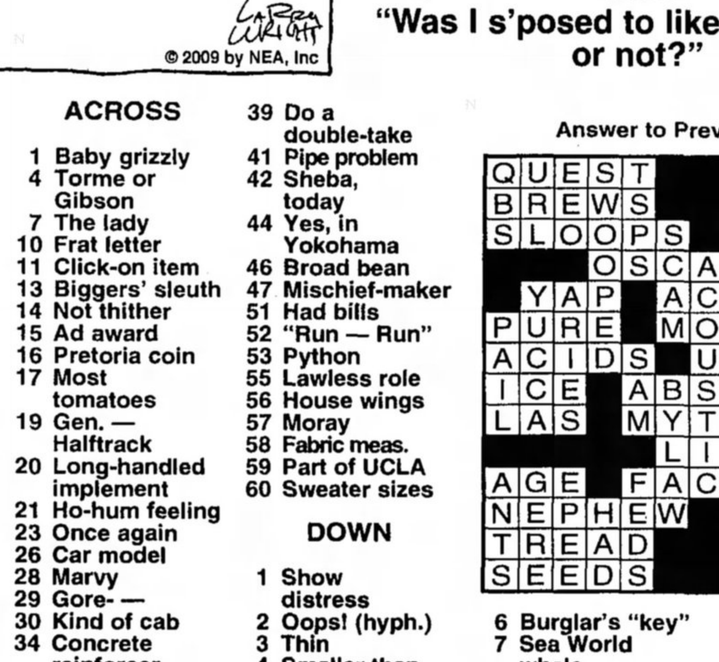
DOWN

1 Show distress
2 Oops! (hyph.)
3 Thin
4 Smaller than mini
5 Astronomical event
6 Burglar's "key"
7 Sea World whale
8 Asian capital
9 Terminates
12 Sniffed at
13 Nook
18 Pricey car logo
22 Keeps after
23 Olduvai loc.
24 Lassie's refusal
25 Diminish
27 Co. honcho
29 Oak or fir
31 "The Raven" poet
32 Mexican Mrs.
33 Tibetan ox
35 Large fleet
37 Desdemona's love
40 Viewpoint
41 Diamond —
42 Went off-course
43 Levels off
45 Accumulate
46 Glamorous
48 Diner freebie
49 Mountain goat
50 Eggnog time
54 Hirt and Gore

Answer to Previous Puzzle

Q	U	E	S	T				S	N	I	F	F
B	R	E	W	S				K	U	B	L	A
S	L	O	O	P	S		P	I	T	I	E	D
			O	S	C	A	R	S		S	A	S
	Y	A	P		A	C	E					
P	U	R	E		M	O	S	T		Q	T	S
A	C	I	D	S		U	S	E		T	E	E
I	C	E		A	B	S		A	N	I	M	A
L	A	S		M	Y	T	H		A	P	P	T
				L	I	E			I	S	T	
A	G	E		F	A	C	I	A	L			
N	E	P	H	E	W		R	I	G	G	E	D
T	R	E	A	D				R	U	P	E	E
S	E	E	D	S				S	N	A	R	E

Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com



9-25 © 2009 by NEA, Inc.

Associated Press

Patrick O'Leary standing in the living room of his recently purchased home in East Greenwich, R.I. The previous owner met with him to discuss all the home systems and maintenance after O'Leary had bought the house.

Home buyer should ask seller for lowdown

Nobody knows the house better than the former owner.

By MELISSA KOSSLER DUTTON
For The Associated Press

After house-hunting, negotiating a price and working out details of his move, Patrick O'Leary was ready to tackle the real work: understanding and operating the various mechanical systems in his new, 6,000-square-foot home.

He was relieved when the former owner offered to meet him at the East Greenwich, R.I., house to go over its theater equipment, sprinkler system and pool. The seller left O'Leary a list of companies and contractors who have worked on the home in recent years.

"They put all the bells and whistles in this house. It would have been difficult to just walk in and understand everything," he said. "It definitely gives a comfort level."

No law obligates sellers to help buyers learn the idiosyncrasies of a house, but some go to great lengths to help the new owners settle in. Buyers should ask about everything from the day-to-day operations of the house to landscaping details to the names of neighborhood baby sitters, said real estate agent Ron Phipps.

"There's so much data you can collect," said Phipps, who sells real estate in Warwick, R.I., and is first vice president of the Chicago-based National Association of Realtors.

"It's unfortunate if a buyer doesn't have access to a seller to explain things," he said.

Typically, the amount of information exchanged depends on the character of the negotiations, Phipps said. Falling home prices and tough negotiations in recent years have made some sellers less likely to provide additional details, he said.

Real estate agent Gregg Whitney has found it easier to provide buyers with information about contractors and home professionals himself than to rely on sellers.

"We realized we could make sure they're taken care of," said Whitney, of La Jolla, Calif. "It's really important to have somebody you can call and get questions answered."

But nothing can replace seller insights, he added.

"Invariably, every house has a little something," he said. "It's not that the seller didn't disclose something, it's just how the mechanics work."

That's why it never hurts to ask sellers for information, said Donna Batdorff, a real estate agent in Grand Rapids, Mich. She encourages buyers to put together a list of questions after the deal has been negotiated. She suggests asking everything from the names of paint colors to the names and details of immediate neighbors.

Batdorff even asks sellers to fill out a form during closing offering information about garbage pickup, appliance warranties and vendors who have worked on the house. The document often leads to the exchange of additional useful information, she said.

"Buyers and sellers don't do this all the time," she said. "It helps if the real estate agent facilitates the conversation."

Sellers who are sentimental about their home often appreciate the chance to share details, added Judi Scull, a real estate agent in Westminster, Md.

"A lot of times people just love their house," she said. "They don't want to give it up to people they don't know."

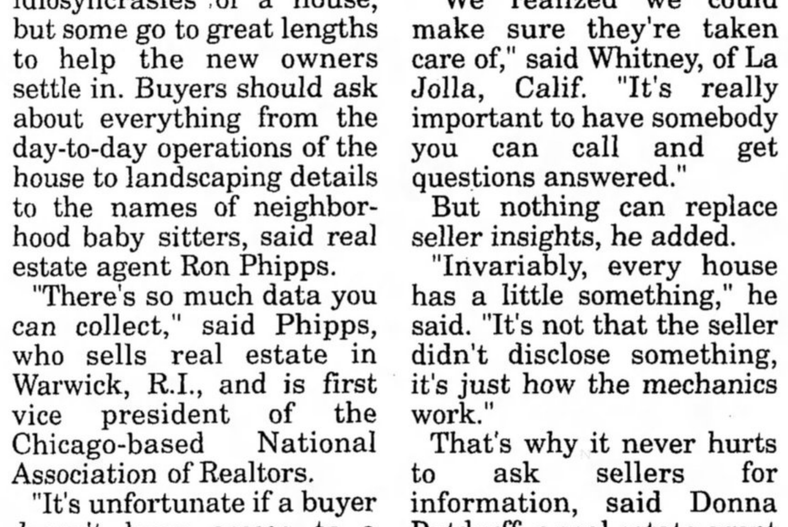
She recently oversaw a meeting where a buyer walked the new owner around the home's meandering property line, pointed out interesting varieties of trees and shared the location of a generator hookup. The seller also gave the owner a lesson on how to operate the thermostat and a tip on how to start a balky dishwasher.

Suggested questions

By The Associated Press

Questions that new buyers of a home might ask the seller:

1. Are any appliances under warranty?
2. Do you have product manuals for appliances?
3. Can you provide a landscape plan or a list of outdoor plants and how to care for them?
4. What are the names and phone numbers of immediate neighbors?
5. Are there children living on the street?
6. Where is the school bus stop?
7. What day is trash pickup?
8. What do I do with recyclables?
9. What are your favorite restaurants, video stores and parks?
10. Can you recommend a dry cleaner, mechanic, etc.?
11. What companies did you use for lawn care, snow removal, pool cleaning, etc.?
12. Is there an electrician, plumber or technician familiar with the systems in the house?
13. What are the names of the paint colors used in the house?
14. Are there any light switches that operate something unexpected?



Associated Press

This is the wired systems room of Patrick O'Leary's home in East Greenwich, R.I.

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Proper mowing key for a healthy lawn

Learn when and how to cut your grass.

By LEE REICH
For The Associated Press

Mowing the lawn is at once the most mundane and the most unique form of pruning. Everyone does it, yet what other kind of pruning calls for cutting off only part of a leaf blade — and thousands at a time?

The reason grasses tolerate such pruning is because the growing point of a grass plant is nestled down near ground level, below the reach of mower blades. Just the same, mowing, like any other form of pruning, weakens a plant. So you have to strike a balance between what looks nice and what keeps the plants healthy.

How often and how much?

As a rule, mow frequently enough to remove no more than one-third of the length of the grass blades. For example, if you want your lawn 2 inches high, mow an inch off when the leaves reach 3 inches.

Keep in mind that uniformity of cut rather than closeness of cut plays a large part in making an elegant lawn. Longer grass also needs less frequent mowing than short grass, and creates shade that starves out weeds such as crabgrass.

The optimum mowing height varies with the grass species and growing conditions. Stress such as shade or drought calls for longer grass. Also, newly seeded lawns need to grow a little longer than established lawns.

Cut it right

Ideally, all grass blades are dry and standing up like soldiers when you go out to mow. By mowing down to the recommended length and not removing more than a third of the blades, the grass will not be so long that it is flopping over under its own weight.

One advantage of a rotary mower over a reel mower is that the rotary mower's cutting blade acts like a propeller to suck the grass blades upright. If you mow frequently enough, no need to rake up the clippings; left on the soil, they add valuable nutrients and humus.

If you have been remiss in mowing, lower the grass in stages to avoid shocking it, and collect the clippings after each mowing.

As with any type of pruning, sharp cutting blades make cleaner cuts — important for plant health and appearance in the case of lawns. Reel-type mowers make the cleanest cuts, but rotary mowers can cut longer grass.

Add a little interest?

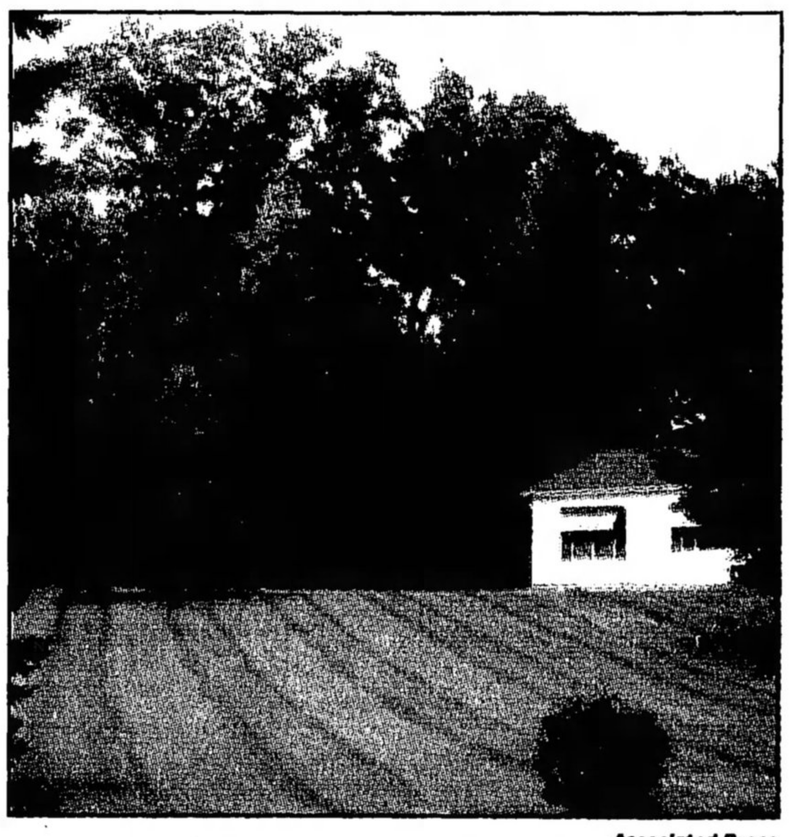
No matter what type of mower you use, vary your mowing pattern each time if you want a uniform surface and to avoid permanent ruts in the ground.

On the other hand, you may not want to create a perfectly uniform surface. Notice just after you mow how the grass has a slightly different hue depending on the direction the mower traveled. This effect is most dramatic when a lush lawn has been cut with a reel-type mower.

In Great Britain, land of perfect lawns, lawn mavens create striped patterns in their lawns by directing their mowers back and forth across the greensward in neat parallel lines.

British garden writer Hugh Johnson wrote in "The Principles of Gardening" (Simon & Schuster, 1983) that "regular stripes emphasize the calm and orderliness of a well-kept lawn. To a lawn fanatic the process of mowing is a pleasure in itself: the noise of the mower, the smell of the exhaust and the oil and the warm green cuttings. For the richest green and the most pronounced stripes three-quarters of an inch is best."

To each his own.



Associated Press

Lawn-care experts advise removing no more than one-third of the length of the grass blades.

CLIP AND SAVE
FAYETTE FORWARD 20/20 VISION
What do you value? How do you see the future? What's needed in your community?
COMMUNITY MEETINGS
Putting *UNITY* back into Comm-*UNITY*

Community	Date	Time (PM)	Location
Menallen	Oct 6	6:30 - 8:30	Menallen Twp. Bldg
Vanderbilt	Oct 8	6:30 - 8:30	Vanderbilt Boro. Bldg.
South Connellsville	Oct 13	2:00 - 4:00	S. Connellsville Boro. Bldg.
Connellsville	Oct 13	6:30 - 8:30	Bud Murphy's
Brownsville	Oct 14	6:30 - 8:30	Sons Of Italy
Fairchance	Oct 19	6:30 - 8:30	Fairchance Borough
Bullskin	Oct 20	6:30 - 8:30	Municipal Building
Dunbar	Oct 22	6:30 - 8:30	Fire Dept. Social Hall
Uniontown	Oct 27	2:00 - 4:00	First Niagra Bank Bldg (formerly National City)
Uniontown	Oct 27	6:30 - 8:30	VFW #47
Ohiopyle	Oct 28	6:30 - 8:30	Community Center
Masontown	Oct 29	6:30 - 8:30	VFW
Farmington	Nov 5	6:30 - 8:30	Wharton Mun. Bldg.
Normalville/Mill Run	Nov 10	6:30 - 8:30	Springfield Fire Dept.
Perryopolis	Nov 11	6:30 - 8:30	Perry Fire Hall
Washington Twp/ Fayette City	Nov 17	6:30 - 8:30	Washington Twp Community Center
Pt. Marion	Nov 18	6:30 - 8:30	Scout Building (corner of Cheat and Railroad Sts.)

HELP PLAN THE FUTURE
The Fayette County 10-year Strategic Plan revision is underway. This is your opportunity to get involved.
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FAYETTE FORWARD ... www.fayetteforward.org Starting Oct. 1, 2009
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CLIP AND SAVE
1415107

NEWS

Games (FROM PAGE ONE)

and it's come in so many different times. I'm not sure what's in there," he said. "Once we get there, we will caucus, and they will reveal all that, and we'll get a huge, thick sheet to study."

Harhai said this is the sixth time he has been told the budget could be finalized.

"It's very puzzling, because you don't know what they removed to make this dollar figure and you don't know what remains," he said. "That's where we get upset as rank-and-file people ... We're pretty ill-informed on things, and that's the frustrating thing as a legislator. I understand there are so many people in the process, but we need to be better informed."

The budget plan lifts the sales tax exemption on theater, dance and musical performance admissions. It raises the tax on cigarettes by 25 cents per pack.

"I'm not a smoker, and I'm not advocating smoking, but they've taxed them how many times?" Harhai said.

"And now they want to add another 25 cents? I think we've really gone to the well against these smokers. Another 25 cents is ridiculous ... they'll go out of state to get their cigarettes."

There is also discussion about legalizing video poker machines, a measure Harhai said contradicts permitting slots and possibly table games.

"If they are going to legalize video gaming, they're losing their wedge, which is table games. The timing is horrendous," Harhai said.

State Reps. Peter J. Daley (D-California) and Dave Levdansky (D-Forward Township) also spoke out against a small games of chance tax.

Levdansky said a provision that raises the amount a host organization can make per week from $5,000 to $20,000 is impractical.

"Most of my small games of chance people, they don't do $5,000 a month," he said. "Raising the ceiling on the size of the prize does not offset the fact that they are going to pay 20 percent."

Daley objected to the small games of chance and cigarette taxes.

"I'm not excited about the increase in the cigarette tax, and we're talking about (legalizing) table games ... it's not going to generate enough revenue for next year, because we're going to have a deficit," he said.

The state is facing a $3.2 billion deficit.

Daley said much work has been done to cut into it.

"There are just massive cuts everywhere," he said. "The lack of money coming into the general fund is going to cost many organizations and programs cataclysmic cuts for the next couple of years.

"It's the middle class and senior citizens that are going to be paying ... and they're the people suffering the most for the downturn of the economy."

Levdansky noted that $28.2 billion was spent in the 2008-2009 budget. He said this year's figure is down to $27.9 billion.

"Some line items are cut a very significant amount," he said. "The reality is, about 60 to 65 percent of your budget is fixed."

"There's going to be a $300 million increase in aid to public education. That's a significant increase in state aid to public education in a year where practically everybody else is getting cut. I think the message to our school boards is, 'You need to hold the line on local school property taxes.'

"We made the tough choices in Harrisburg in the most dire fiscal environment I've seen in my entire career ... 25 years."

Levdansky is taking a stand against the budget agreement requiring the state's forest department to lease land for natural gas drilling.

"What they're proposing is to require DCNR to lease between 200,000 and 400,000 acres out of our most environmentally sensitive and valuable forests in order to raise revenue to help fund the budget," Levdansky said of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

"You ought to let the professionals in the department decide how much leasing they will permit and negotiate a fair rate for it. This budget would tie their hands."

He compared the operation of DCNR to the state Liquor Control Board.

"We let the LCB price the liquor and sell the liquor and crack down on nuisance bars," he said. "But, what if we told the LCB you've got to generate $60 million this year? It's unwise to do that. Let your professionals make the call in DCNR in how much forest ought to be leased."

Levdansky said he is proposing a statewide 6 percent severance tax determined by the volume of gas coming out of each gas well.

"We're the only state that doesn't have a severance tax," he said. "These are big, out-of-state companies that come here and drill our natural resources.

"They're paying it in every other state. The only thing they pay is the state personal income tax, so they're already paying the lowest corporate tax in the country. We're going to allow these large, out-of-state gas companies to 'drill baby drill' and not pay a gas severance tax?"

Harhai and Daley took Levdansky's side on that issue.

"You have to be careful because there's only one state forest area," Harhai said. "It's all over the state, but we don't want to destroy that. It has to be under some form of control or surveillance.

"If they put that out there, they're going to drill through the entire state forest system. I'm not for that."

"The bottom line to the whole thing is, we as a commonwealth are not going to generate enough revenues from the gases that are going to be extracted from those state game lands," Daley said.

"Many hunters and fisherman are opposed to this. Plus, I don't think it's really going do what it's expected to do."

Levdansky said he and many other lawmakers have yet to see detailed descriptions of the budget proposal.

"There's a lot of legislators that share my concern on the small games of chance and the emasculation of the state's forest system," he said. "Those two issues have to be resolved before we are going to be able to move the budget. The devil is in the details."

State Rep. Tim Solobay (D-Canonsburg) favors leasing state forest land for drilling, saying there are provisions in the proposal to preserve the affected areas' environmental integrity.

"They're already paying a whole lot more to operate in Pennsylvania and buying product that is giving us sales tax, which is more than what a severance tax would generate," he said of drilling companies. "Because of a severance tax, all those drilling companies moved out of West Virginia and came to Pennsylvania."

Solobay objected to the small games of chance tax at face value and said he would not make a decision until he sees the details.

"If there would be anything that would make me kick and scream it would be this 20 percent tax," he said. "That just brings a whole new mechanism that we're going to have to see what they're looking at and the reality of how they're going to collect.

"I do know that none of us want to see that these groups that are already struggling have to pay any more."

In reference to the cigarette tax increase, Solobay said, "I'm not for it."

"Is it a deal-breaker for me? No, because there are too many other positive things going on," he said.

Solobay said other tax proposals were worse.

"I sure as heck don't want to do an income tax or major sales tax increase," he said. "If this is the lesser of two evils, then we really have to weigh that out. The revenues have to come from some place."

Thousands of state workers went without paychecks in July because of the impasse.

In August, Rendell agreed to $11 billion in spending but used his line item veto to eliminate $12 billion in spending. The move ensured that state workers would be paid and that state contractors would get payments.

Rendell in June pushed a 16 percent boost in the state income tax. But that was blocked in the House by Blue Dog Democrats, fiscally conservative Democrats from western Pennsylvania, and House Republicans. It left Democrats, who control the House, unable to build a majority for the Democratic governor's proposal.

Solobay, Levdansky, Harhai and Daley said the delay in approving the budget has left them with an apathetic outlook.

"The process is way overdue. We're all frustrated with it," Solobay said. "It does drive me crazy. People say, 'You know what the deadline is going to be.' But, there are other factors that come into play.

"This was a very, very unique year. You have different parties in control of the process, and it does become political, whether people want to admit it or not."

Solobay said he thought state employees not getting paid would force the budget to go through.

"But, you just had a digging-in and the fact that the Senate just didn't want to get this thing over with," he said. "It's truly philosophical differences. There was some stubbornness on all ends of the issue here, unfortunately.

"So, hopefully we can get this all behind us and get back to the business of governing. I know there's a lot of legislation we've been working on that has had to take a back seat."

Solobay said he would favor two-year budgets.

He said avoiding a state income tax increase was a major accomplishment.

"We basically went against leadership and the governor," Solobay said. "We said, 'We're not interested in that with the economic times we've been having here.'"

Levdansky said the next longest impasse he experienced was in 1991, when it carried into August.

"I think all parties and the governor, they started out at such polar opposites and extremes," he said of the current stalemate: "I think each side underestimated the will and determination of the other."

Harhai said Daley said budget talks should begin much earlier in the year.

"I never thought it would be this lengthy a battle," Harhai said.

Harhai said he would probably have to settle for some budget items he does not wholeheartedly approve.

"In order to get what you want, you accept things you do not want, and that's been the budget process for the last 12 years I've been part of it," he said.

Daley said he is pleased with one part of the budget.

"According to the last proposal, there's increasing funding to the State System of Higher Education, which will affect California University of Pennsylvania," he said. "That's the only bright light I see, but that's like a bicycle light as opposed to a car light.

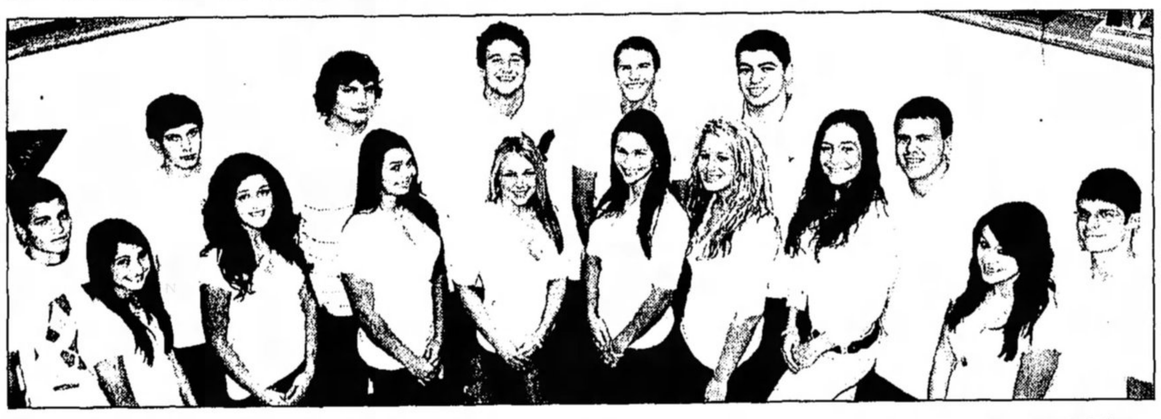
"In my business, you never get everything you want. Unfortunately, I think that's going to be the case for everybody."

Daley said he has not seen all of the details in the new proposal. He is mostly relying on word of mouth.

"Am I inclined to vote for it? Yes. I want to get this budget passed. That's the bottom line," he said. "Now, we're in the pressure cooker, and we have no choice. I think that was the purpose of the Senate holding out was to hold the state hostage, and that's what they're doing.

"You've got a Republican Senate that's diametrically opposed to any compromise in the negotiating process. It's give and take, and I think they set themselves up for disaster.

"The state's an embarrassment in terms of good governance. The Pennsylvania Legislature is the most partisan legislature in the country. We've got to set politics aside. We're just too political."



Charleroi Area High School will announce its homecoming queen Friday when it hosts South Allegheny. The court comprises, first row, from left: Mara Spina, Anna Amprim, Janny Camut, Heather Rialti, Daniella Todora, Sarah Rothrock, Leah Grillo and Tiffany Lee; and second row, same order: Greg Black, Zach Boehme, Ray Campbell, Jake Linn, Eric Anderson, Zach Meharey, Larry Pierce and Jesse Stringer.

Don't miss Valley Business, which appears Wednesdays

Cal U sets Herron Recreation, Fitness Center rededication

California University of Pennsylvania will re-dedicate the Herron Recreation and Fitness Center 11 a.m. Saturday.

The 55,000-square-foot building has been closed while undergoing a $10 million renovation project.

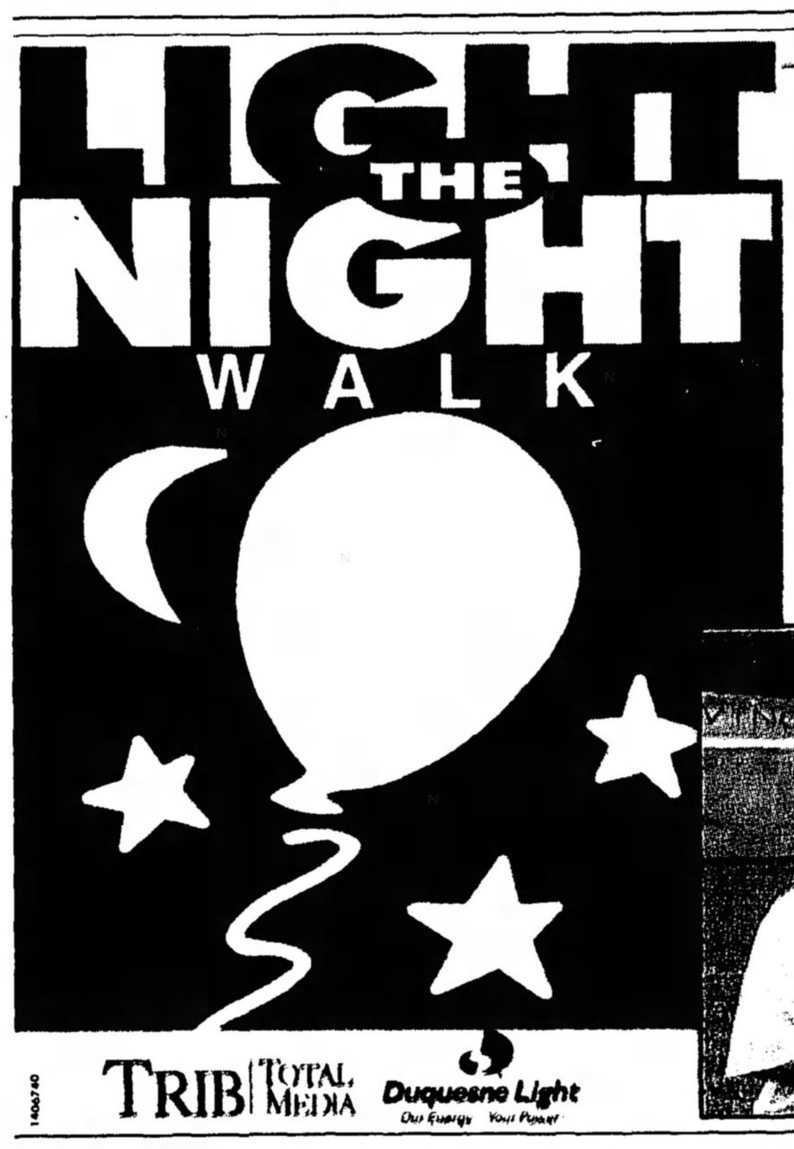
Students called for the project, which resulted in Herron Hall being expanded by 18,000 square feet.

Now a state-of-the-art facility, Herron Hall will include:

- A 33-foot-tall climbing wall.
- An elevated walking and jogging track that overlooks the gymnasium, cardio room and climbing area.
- A whirlpool, steam sauna and four-lane lap pool.
- A cardiovascular area with 40 machines including treadmills, upright and recumbent stationary bikes, elliptical machines, rowers and stair-climbers.
- Two weight areas with more than 3,000 pounds of free weights, plus Olympic racks, platforms and benches.
- Two gymnasiums, one with a multipurpose floor and another with a wood floor, to accommodate basketball, volleyball, dek hockey, soccer and group fitness classes.
- A group fitness studio, racquetball courts and locker rooms.
- The Sycamore Bistro food service area.

The facility will be open to Cal U students with valid Cal Cards, and to university employees and alumni who purchase memberships.

It will be open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sundays.


LIGHT THE NIGHT
WALK
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society*
Fighting Blood Cancers
Thursday, October 1
Heinz Field
Festivities at 5:30pm;
Walk at 7:30pm
Food, fun, fireworks!
Aaron Smith of the Pittsburgh Steelers and WPXI's Rich Walsh have teamed up to help cure blood cancers! Aaron's son Elijah has leukemia and Rich's father recently passed away from leukemia.
Together, they are fundraising for The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Light the Night Walk.
Join Aaron, Rich and thousands of others and Light the Night on Thursday, October 1 at Heinz Field.
Visit
lightthenight.org
today to join or donate to "Team Elijah."
Proceeds from Light The Night fund lifesaving research.
Register at www.lightthenight.org
Or call 412-395-2875
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IN THE SERVICE

Dziak completes basic training

Dziak

Reserve Airman 1st Class Jared R. Dziak completed basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The son of Richard Dziak, of Monessen, he is a 2008 Monessen High School graduate.

When you make the grade

When submitting news items for our Making the Grade feature, please include the first and last names of all listed.

In addition, include a telephone number, just in case we have any questions about your submission.

Pens lose; Crosby hurt

The Pens' leader left exhibition against Columbus in the first period with a groin injury and did not return.
3B

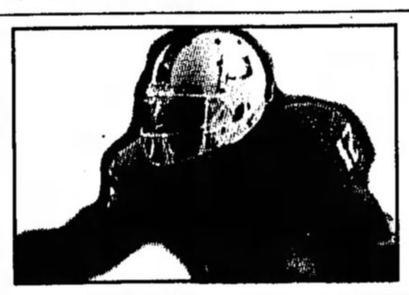
Valley SPORTS

Pirates can't stop skid

The slumping team was swept by the Reds, giving them 25 losses in the last 30 games.
3B

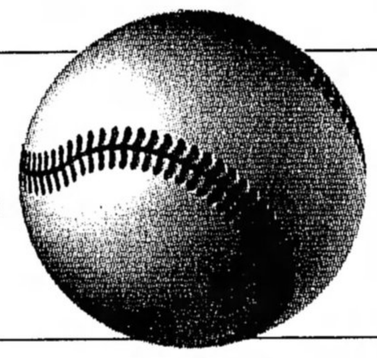
The U is back!

Thanks to the outstanding play of quarterback Jacory Harris, Miami is off to its best start in recent years.
2B



Sports Trivia

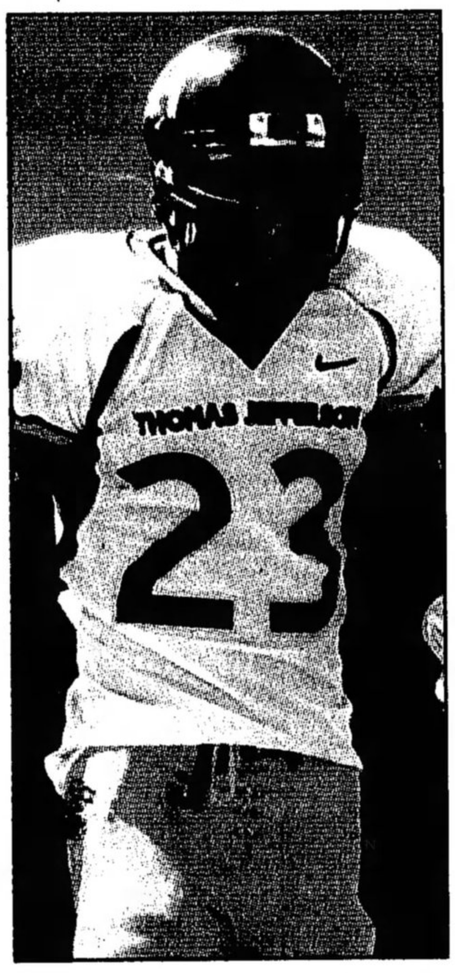
Who was the Thomas Jefferson football coach before Bill Cherpak? 4B



Last night's scores

L.A. Dodgers 7, Washington 6
Philadelphia 9, Milwaukee 4
San Diego 5, Colorado 4
Chicago Cubs 3, San Francisco 2

TJ, Cherpak: A winning combo



TJ's Jim Giansante is drawing great interest from Division I schools.

No WPIAL team has been as successful as tonight's Ringgold foe.

By BRIAN HERMAN
Sports Editor
bherman@tribweb.com

There's nothing like opening your conference season against possibly western Pennsylvania's best football program and most successful coach.

That's what's facing Ringgold (2-1) in its Big 7 debut at Joe Montana Stadium tonight at 7 o'clock against Thomas Jefferson (3-0,1-0) and Bill Cherpak.

No WPIAL team has won more games in the present decade than TJ.

If the Jaguars' overall 114-14 record dating back to 2000 isn't impressive enough, how about four WPIAL and two PIAA Class AAA championships?

This season, TJ will be going after its fourth straight WPIAL crown and third straight PIAA title.

The Jaguars have never had a losing season since the 41-year-old Cherpak - who's in his sixth year as TJ's athletic director - took the football job in 1995 and decided to get out of the funeral home business.

So far TJ has kept its tradition intact in 2009 by blanking H.D. Woodson of Washington D.C., 38-0, before dropping Uniontown, 34-19, and Trinity, 34-7, to extend its WPIAL winning streak to 40.

"We didn't play well against Uniontown and were okay against Trinity," said Cherpak. "We can get a lot better."

Heading this year's cast of TJ stars are seniors Jim Giansante and Sam Johnston and sophomore Ryan Ruffing.

"Giansante is our go-to guy," said Cherpak. "He made one of the best catches I've ever seen against Trinity, tipping the ball from his left hand."

A 6-2, 180 pound senior. Giansante has already caught 14 passes for 354 yards and five touchdowns.

Against Uniontown, Giansante scored three touchdowns on passes of 82, 57 and 44 yards.

No one has to tell first-year Ringgold coach Lloyd Price about Giansante.

"He may be the best receiver in the WPIAL," said Price. "You always have to be aware of where he is."

Johnston, meanwhile, has had no problem replacing Tyler Wehner.

Johnston has completed 23 of 36 passes for 502 yards and seven TDs.

"Some of his best plays are throwing the ball away," said Cherpak.

"His poise impresses me," added Price. "He stands in there on the blitz and looks down the barrel."

Ruffing ran for 97 yards against Uniontown and has scored five times.

Dan Pastore, who had three quarterback sacks in the opener, and Ed Hasis with three interceptions, are among TJ's defensive standouts.

"Their secondary is as good as I've seen," said Price. "They're solid all the way around."

"I always want our defense to be strong," noted Cherpak.

Cherpak's record
over the years
Year W L Year W L
1995 - 8 - 3
1996 - 9 - 2
1997 - 8 - 3
1998 - 8 - 3
1999 - 8 - 4
2000 - 9 - 3
2001 - 9 - 3
2002 - 11 - 1
2003 - 12 - 1
2004 - 14 - 2
2005 - 11 - 2
2006 - 14 - 1
2007 - 16 - 0
2008 - 15 - 1
2009 - 3 - 0
155 Wins
29 Losses
THE MAN WHO THINKS HE CAN AND THE MAN WHO THINKS HE CAN'T ARE BOTH RIGHT!"

Price knows the Rams are a distinct underdog.

"We have to come out ready to play and limit our mistakes," he said. "If we come out intimidated like a lot of teams do against them, it will be a long night."

LEFTOVERS: Bob Bracken, Ringgold's leading rusher, is averaging 111 yards a game and 10 yards a carry. Ringgold quarterback Dylan Patch has run for three touchdowns, thrown for one and returned an interception for a score. The Rams' leading receiver is Nick McPherson with seven catches for 104 yards and three touchdowns. Junior Derrick Fiore will have the assignment of trying to contain Giansante. TJ has allowed only one first half touchdown.

Steelers pass on run game

Quarterback Ben Roethlisberger has carried a spotty offense in the first two games.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Two games into the season, the Pittsburgh Steelers' offense has mostly been Big Ben and a big question mark.

After winning the Super Bowl mostly on the strength of their passing game, the Steelers still don't quite seem to know what they want to do offensively.

Are they a running team that can't pass up the temptation to let Roethlisberger throw on every important down? Or are they making the transition to a passing team that can't seem to commit to also having its usual strong running game?

Roethlisberger knows what he wants the Steelers (1-1) to be doing in Sunday's AFC North game against Cincinnati (1-1). He also knows they're not they're yet.

"We've got to try to score on every possession. We need to take big plays, little plays, and drive the ball up the field," Roethlisberger said. "We've got to find a way to be an offense that teams fear."

The Steelers, who have run the ball infrequently and not very effectively despite Rashard Mendenhall's 39-yard run against Chicago on Sunday, haven't exactly been scary while scoring 13 points against the Titans and 14 points against the Bears. By contrast, they had 48 points in their first two games last season and 60 in their first two in 2007.

The Steelers' gradual but persistent move away from the run as the driving force of their offense also seems evident. They ran only 22 times against Chicago (105 yards) and 23 times against Tennessee (36 yards). Willie Parker alone had 53 carries in their first two games last season, and he had fewer than 20 carries in a September game only three times in the previous three seasons.

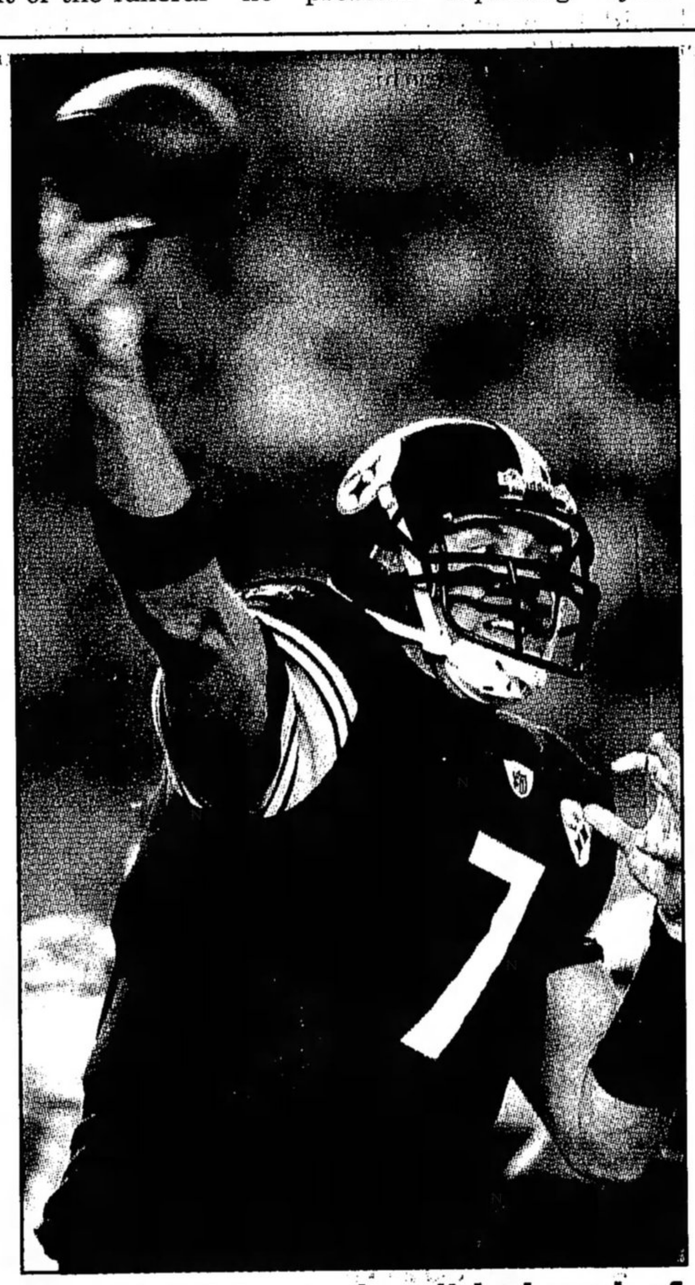
In Chicago, Roethlisberger tried to throw to Santonio Holmes 14 times while going 23 of 35 for 221 yards, or as many times as Parker carried. Holmes finished with five catches for 83 yards. In two games, Roethlisberger has thrown 78 times; the Steelers have run it 45 times.

"You can't be truly successful unless you have some form of balance," coach Mike Tomlin said. "Ultimately, though, we're interested in winning football games."

The Steelers had a balanced run-to-pass mix during Tomlin's first two seasons. Last season, they ran the ball 460 times and Roethlisberger and backup Byron Leftwich threw it 505 times; in 2007, the Steelers ran 511 times and threw 442 times.

The shift to a much more pass-driven offense — offensive coordinator Bruce Arians doesn't even have a true fullback in his system — is significant because, since 1970, the Steelers have about 5,000 yards rushing more than any other NFL team.

"I think the longer I'm in this job, I'm less concerned with story lines or personas, if you will," Tomlin said. "I'm only concerned simply about winning. I think great teams are capable of winning in many forms or fashion and playing to their strengths on a week-to-week basis based on a matchup. I thought a great deal about that, frankly, during the offseason. You study a team like New England, and they walk into a stadium offensively and, week to week, they can be whatever they choose to be."



Ben Roethlisberger hasn't had much of a running game to support his passing attack.

When the Steelers walk into Cincinnati's Paul Brown Stadium, they generally run the ball straight at — and, usually, through — the Bengals. During their last nine regular season trips to Cincinnati, the Steelers have rushed 35 times or more in six games and 40 times or more in three games.

Unless the game is one-sided, the Steelers could be signaling what may be a season-long trend if they leave Cincinnati with far more passing attempts than rushes.

The running backs' relative ineffectiveness to date may be a factor. Parker, a three-time 1,000-yard back, has yet to hit 50 yards in a game and, outside of his one long run in Chicago, Mendenhall has 6 carries for 6 yards.

"I feel like we're on track with the running game," Mendenhall said. "Last week we did better than we did in the first week. We feel good about how the rushing game's going, no matter who we're playing against."

To Tomlin, the statistic that matters the most is wins.

"We've got a desire to win a bunch of games," he said. "We've got three and four wideouts that we're comfortable with, two and three tight ends that we're comfortable with, two or three backs that we're comfortable with. We want to create that same persona."

Cal U to be tested by recruit who got away

Clarion quarterback Tyler Huether spurned Cal offer to play quickly for Golden Eagles.

By BRIAN HERMAN
Sports Editor
bherman@tribweb.com

California University football coach John Luckhardt doesn't lose many recruiting battles with other PSAC West schools when it comes to WPIAL players.

But he'll be looking at one when his Vulcans (2-2, 1-0) take on Clarion (2-2, 1-0) Saturday at 3 p.m. at Adamson Stadium.

The player that got away is the Golden Eagles' four-year starting quarterback Tyler Huether.

"We tried to recruit him but he wanted to play right away," recalled Luckhardt of the Penn-Trafford standout, who threw for 5,607 yards and 46 touchdowns with the Warriors.

At the time, Luckhardt was set at quarterback with Joe Ruggieri.

Huether has made his mark at Clarion since he's second on the school's all-time completion list with 379, behind only the Golden Eagles' current quarterback coach Chris Weibel.

This season he's thrown for 935 yards and five touchdowns.

Even though Cal owns four straight wins over Clarion, Luckhardt isn't looking past the Golden Eagles.

"They're very explosive on offense," he said. "Huether has played exceptioinlly well and they have some weapons who are now veterans.

Clarion's "weapons" include wide receiver Jacques Robinson, tight end Matt Fadora and all-purpose back Alfonso Hoggard,

Robinson is the conference's leading receiver with 27 catches for 289 yards and Fadora has 18 receptions for 226 yards. Both have caught two touchdown passes.

Hoggard, the PSAC Rookie of the Year in 2007, is coming off 214 all-purpose yards against Lock Haven, including 114 rushing.

Last year Hoggard was a second team All-America All-Purpose back after coming up with 1,517 yards as a runner, receiver and kick and punt returner.

Tyler Huether

The defense is led by junior strong safey Nick Sipes, who played running back a year ago after starring on defense as a freshman.

Sipes has 42 tackles including three quarterback sacks.

"Sipes lines up all over the field," said Luckhardt. "They use him like the Steelers use Troy Polamalu. They're very aggressive and blitz every down to create problems."

Clarion leads the confrence in sacks with 18.

California, meanwhile, has allowed only three sacks to top the PSAC in that department.

The Vulcans are coming off their best offensive performance of the season with 52 points and 551 total offense yards against Gannon.

"We're making strides and have been getting better offensively the last six quarters," said Luckhardt.

CAL CLIPS: The Vulcans' Josh Portis is fourth inthe PSAC intotal offense yards with a 225 avrage, 23 behind Huether. The Vulcans' AJ Jackson is third in receiving with 24 receptions for 328 yards and a conference-high five touchdowns. Sophomores Steve Santia and Thomas Mulabah have replaced injured Sam Fikaris at nose tackle. The Vulcans are third in the conference in total defense, allowing an average of 270 yards.

U-TURN

Jacory Harris has Miami back on the road to national prominence

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Sports Writer

Jacory Harris has an enemy. Himself. For the first two games, Miami's quarterback embraced the us-against-the-world philosophy, borne from a notion that the Hurricanes weren't truly considered contenders in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Those slights were his motivation.

"We want everybody to doubt us this year, because that's going to keep us going," Harris said. "As long as everybody keeps doubting us, we're going to keep on truckin'."

Alas, there's the problem. If Harris keeps playing like this, there might not be many doubters left.

There aren't many quarterbacks off to the type of start Harris is enjoying. He threw for 270 yards and three touchdowns Thursday night, lifting Miami (2-0, 2-0 ACC) to a 33-17 win over Georgia Tech, the Hurricanes' first victory over the Yellow Jackets in five years.

Through two games, Harris has completed 41 of 59 passes for 656 yards and five touchdowns. He has the offense flying, too: The last time Miami exceeded 450 total yards in consecutive games was at the start of the 2003 season.

Until now, that is.

"When you have confidence like he does, the sky's the limit," Miami coach Randy Shannon said. "It's more the team rather than Jacory. I mean, Jacory knows that his offensive line is going to protect him. ... You've got to give those guys a lot of credit up front."

The proof of that? Harris' uniform pants after Thursday night's game.

Other than a slight smudge on his left leg — who knows, maybe from kneeling to kill the clock at game's end — they were still as white as when he slipped them on. Harris remembered being on the ground only once, and that's when he tripped over his own feet on a pass that went for a touchdown.

"He played a great game," Georgia Tech coach Paul Johnson said. "They pretty much moved the ball at will."

Miami hasn't been known for the better part of a quarter-century as "Quarterback U" for nothing.

And one of the guys who helped earn that moniker watched from the Hurricanes' sideline Thursday night, giving Harris high marks.

"He's got great poise," said Gino Torretta, the 1992 Heisman Trophy winner for Miami. "Good plays and bad plays, he's got poise."

The bad plays, they've been rare.

Harris has connected with 12 different receivers so far this season, spreading the five touchdowns to five different teammates. He's hit on three 40-yard passes — one each to Travis Benjamin, Leonard Hankerson and LaRon Byrd.

Defenses know Miami will throw.

They just don't know to whom.

"It shows how this offense is not selfish," Byrd said. "As long as we're winning, as long as we grind, as long as we're moving those chains, it doesn't matter who's catching the ball."

Now 33-1 as a starting quarterback since his junior year of high school, Harris didn't even wait for a postgame shower last Thursday night before turning his attention to the next challenge.

That test could be a colossal one, when Miami heads to Virginia Tech Saturday. A win would put the Hurricanes at 3-0 in the ACC. That's only happened once before: 2004, Miami's first season in the conference.

"We're very humble," Harris said. "We understand that we've got other teams ahead we've got to beat. And in order to stay undefeated, you've got to win the next game. So that's what we understand. We keep that in our mind."

A number of Miami players, Harris among them, were predictably perturbed when none of the 87 voters in the ACC preseason poll picked Miami to win the Coastal Division. Talk that the Hurricanes could go 0-4 to open the season — unless Oklahoma stunningly drops out, Miami will be the third team since 1999 to start with four ranked opponents — fueled Harris as well.

He took some of that frustration out on Florida State, some more on Georgia Tech.

"We still want to be considered the underdogs," Harris insisted Thursday night.

At this rate, that might not happen much longer.

Stacked schedule

Miami is the third team in 10 years to start its season with four straight ranked opponents. After beating No. 18 Florida State and No. 14 Georgia Tech, the Hurricanes will travel to No. 11 Virginia Tech tomorrow and host No. 10 Oklahoma next week.

Ex-Cane Coker now on smaller stage

By PAUL J. WEBER
Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO — Former Miami coach Larry Coker describes his fall from the leader of a college football powerhouse to the man in charge of a start-up program at the University of Texas-San Antonio in almost biblical terms.

Sort of like Moses, with a national championship ring.

"I've been in the palace. I've been with kings and wealth, and I was able to hold up that crystal ball as a champion," he said. "Then there is the other side of the desert."

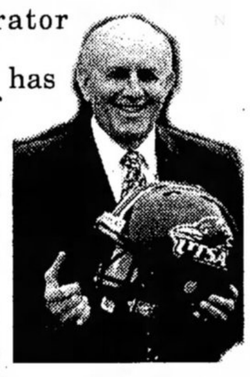
Cast into coaching exile in 2006 when the Hurricanes fired him following a season marred by violence, off-field troubles and more losses than Miami was used to, Coker arrived at UTSA this spring after wandering the college football landscape for two years in search of another chance.

He found one with the Roadrunners, who won't play their first game until 2011. UTSA hired the 61-year-old as its first football coach in March to build the program from the ground up.

The Roadrunners have yet to sign a single player, have no football facilities or a schedule for their first season ironed out.

Between a busy schedule of fundraisers to raise money for a fledging program, Coker works out of an unremarkable office with barely enough room for two chairs. A football from Miami's national championship team above his desk is one of the few decorations.

"You've been in Mack Brown's office? Is it nicer than this one?" Coker joked. "I'm not concerned about that. It's not where we are, it's where we're going. I've got a mini-refrigerator here, I'm set."



He still has his sense of humor.

Three years after Coker was let go, Miami has rebounded.

Coker is also disappointed Miami didn't stick with him, and in the other colleges that passed over a proven coach with a 60-15 record in six seasons with the Hurricanes.

Game of the Week

No. 9 Miami at No. 11 Virginia Tech, 3:30 p.m. Saturday on ABC. The ACC's highest-ranked teams will clash at Lane Stadium. High-powered Miami is averaging 35.5 points per game and is shooting for its third straight win over a ranked team.

Spotlight Games

Iowa at No. 5 Penn State, 8 p.m. Saturday on ABC. The Nittany Lions get a shot at revenge against the team that knocked them out of the national championship race last season.

Best

No. 6 California at Oregon, 3:30 p.m. Saturday on ABC. The 2-1 Ducks will try to slow down California running back Jahvid Best, who tied a school record last week with five touchdowns against Minnesota.

Area Teams

Saturday

Pittsburgh at North Carolina State, 3:30 p.m.

Fabulous Freshmen

Six major college teams have given significant playing time to freshman quarterbacks this season:

○ **Tate Forcier, Michigan,** played two spectacular games for the 3-0 Wolverines before being limited to 68 passing yards in last week's win over Eastern Michigan.

○ **Matt Barkley, USC**, led the Trojans to a win at Ohio State, but an injury him out of last week's loss at Washington.

○ **Tom Savage, Rutgers**, was knocked out of Saturday's win over Florida International after completing 11 of 28 passes for 185 yards.

○ **David Shinskie, Boston College,** is a 25-year-old former minor league baseball player who split time with Justin Tuggle in last week's loss to Clemson.

○ **Austyn Carta-Samuels, Wyoming**, threw for 125 yards in a backup role in last week's loss to Colorado.

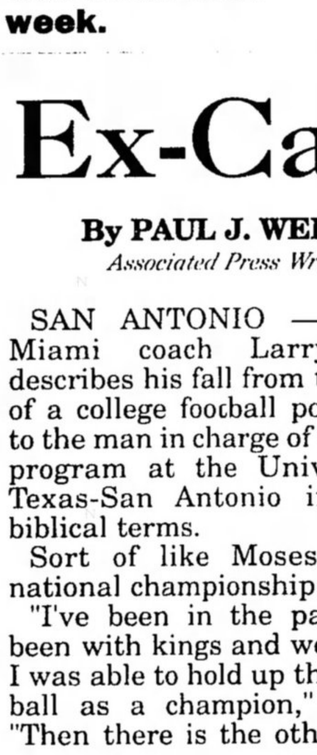
○ **Trent Steelman, Army**, threw for 58 yards and ran for 38 in Saturday's win over Ball State.

Quotable

"I just put my little piece of the puzzle in."

Senior wide receiver Jared Perry on his contributions to the Missouri offense

Tennessee's Kiffin goes down swinging


Lane Kiffin

By JIM LITKE
AP Sports Columnist

Lane Kiffin is that rare college football coach that keeps on giving. Even he doesn't believe half of what comes out of his mouth.

He's Steve Spurrier 'Lite' — not as sharp nor sharp-tongued as the ol' ball coach in his heyday, but the closest thing to a court jester the uptight Southeastern Conference has seen since. Even before playing a game that counted, Tennessee's new hire wrongly accused Florida of cheating, told gas station jokes about South Carolina and gleefully stole a recruiting coordinator out from under Alabama's nose.

So just imagine how much fun Kiffin is going to have if he ever starts winning. It didn't happen Saturday at Gainesville, Fla., unless moral victories count. The Gators beat the Vols 23-13, but considering how much yapping Kiffin did about Florida coach Urban Meyer before and even after the loss, just about everybody expected it to be much worse.

So much so that Meyer made a point of saying the next day it would have been — if only his squad wasn't weakened by the flu and Tennessee had taken a risk or two instead of playing to hold down the score.

"I didn't feel like they were going for the win. They wanted to shorten the game," Meyer said. "I think that was the plan. I remember looking out there and there's 10 minutes left in the game and there's no no-huddle, they are down, I think it was 23-6 and no urgency on Tennessee's part."

When those comments were relayed to Kiffin, he initially passed up a chance to respond. But a moment later, someone asked whether he was worried about the flu bug descending on Tennessee.

"I don't know," he cracked. "I guess we'll wait and after we're not excited about a performance, we'll tell you everybody was sick."

Turns out Meyer wasn't kidding about the flu. Three Florida players were isolated ahead of Saturday's game because of flulike symptoms and even though there were no confirmed cases of swine flu, the entire team was vaccinated Sunday. But a half-dozen other players missed practice Tuesday and receivers coach Billy Gonzales, who was sent home the day before because of a fever, returned wearing gloves and a mask.

As for Meyer's dig about playing too conservatively, Kiffin said, "It's not fun to play that way, but that's what we had to do in that situation, in that stadium, versus that team, at this stage of our team. ... Like I said when I was hired, you're going to see different offenses every week, depending on what we think we need to do to win."

But he still found time to get in a dig at his predecessor, Phil Fulmer — "we've been scared of (Florida) in the past. I think it was obvious Saturday we weren't" — and put his current quarterback, Jonathan Crompton, on notice that he's one of several Vols who "needs to have a very good game this week."

SPORTS

FEARLESS FIVE

	HERMAN	DEVORE	NACCARATO	OLIVER	WALD
Grb. Salem at BVA	BVA	Grb. Salem	BVA	BVA	BVA
Pitt at NC State	NC State	Pitt	Pitt	Pitt	NC State
Miami at Va. Tech	Miami	Va. Tech	Miami	Miami	Va. Tech
Mich State at Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Mich State	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Wisconsin
Steelers at Bengals	Bengals	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers	Steelers
Titans at Jets	TItans	Jets	Jets	Titans	Titans
Broncos at Raiders	Raiders	Raiders	Raiders	Raiders	Broncos
Dolphins at Chargers	Chargers	Chargers	Chargers	Chargers	Chargers
Jaguars at Texans	Texans	Texans	Jaguars	Texans	Texans
Colts at Cardinals	Colts	Colts	Colts	Cardinals	Colts
Last week	8-2	5-5	6-4	6-4	7-3
Season record	13-7	10-10	11-9	13-7	14-6

ABOUT THE PARTICIPANTS

Valley Independent sports editor Brian Herman, Monongahela businessman Don DeVore, Monessen High girls' basketball coach Gina Naccarato, Valley Independent sports writer Jeff Oliver and California University information writer Bruce Wald.

Pirates' slide continues

Loss to Reds' is team's 25th in the last 30 games.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — President Barack Obama's motorcade passed in view of PNC Park in the eighth inning, and military helicopters buzzed over the ballpark all day. Obviously, something big was going on in Pittsburgh.

It wasn't the Reds-Pirates game, where a deserted ballpark matched the nearly deserted downtown only a bridge length away.

Bronson Arroyo limited Pittsburgh to one run over seven innings and the Cincinnati Reds completed their second sweep of the plummeting Pirates in less than a month, winning 4-1 on Thursday to push the Pirates closer to a 100-loss season.

Joey Votto had a two-run double following Drew Sutton's RBI double and Brandon Phillips singled for his 95th RBI during a four-run third inning against Charlie Morton (4-9) as the Reds won their eighth in a row against the last-place Pirates. The Reds are 15 games ahead of the Pirates in the NL Central standings after falling behind them for one day following an Aug. 22 loss.

Since then, fourth-place Cincinnati is 21-10 — although it remains one loss away from a ninth consecutive losing season — and Pittsburgh is 5-25. Five losses by the Pirates in their final 11 games would give them 100.

Pittsburgh, long since assured of a record 17th consecutive losing season, has lost six in a row, nine of 10 and 23 of 26 amid the franchise's worst September spinout since it went 5-22 in September 1998.

At least for the Pirates' sake, there weren't many spectators. The paid attendance was 15,892, but the turnstile count was about 3,000 as two bad teams and the G-20 summit held down the turnout. The crowd was so small that the Pirates closed PNC Park's upper deck for the first time since the 38,362-seat ballpark opened in 2001 and allowed fans to sit in the lower level.

Crowd? The players didn't notice one.

"It didn't bother me. I still have to do what I do best, and that goes for the team as well," said Lastings Milledge, whose third homer provided the Pirates' only run. "We always want a lot of fans to show up, but at the same time we have a job to do and we take a lot of pride in what we do. I didn't think it really mattered, we still tried to pay hard for the win, regardless of whether there's one fan or 30,000 in here."

At least the two teams are used to this kind of apathy. They played before even fewer spectators — an estimated 1,000 — during the first game of a day-night doubleheader in Cincinnati on Aug. 31.

Parking lots near PNC Park were open, but the Pirates said frequent warnings all week about how difficult it would be to travel into Pittsburgh during the two-day summit clearly affected attendance.

The smallest turnout at PNC Park is believed to be the estimated 500 who watched an Astros-Pirates afternoon game on Sept. 28, 2006, that was delayed by heavy rain for 3 1/2 hours.

Crosby hurt in Pens' loss

Team's star left in first period and didn't return.

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Sidney Crosby left the Pittsburgh Penguins' 5-2 exhibition loss to the Columbus Blue Jackets early in the first period Thursday night because of a groin injury that the team said wasn't believed to be serious.

Crosby played three shifts totaling 1 minute, 37 seconds before skating to the bench about 5 minutes into the game.

"It's better to stay off it. I'm hoping, for just a few days," Crosby said. "I've hurt my groin before. It's not as bad. I think I missed five games with one last year. It's just something you have to be careful with."

Pittsburgh coach Dan Bylsma said he wasn't concerned when Crosby left the bench and walked through the tunnel to the dressing room.

"It was more precautionary than anything else," Bylsma said. "It's been tight for a couple of days."

Crosby hopes to play in the final preseason game Sunday at Detroit in a rematch of the last season's Stanley Cup Final won by the Penguins.

"Tomorrow (Friday) I won't skate, but Saturday I'll try to get on the ice for however long and test it out," he said. "It's kind of a day-by-day thing. I'd love to play Sunday. That's what I hope but really don't know with groins. I'm cautious about it but I'm not worried.

"It was sore. We all deal with sore groins this time of the year, especially in camp. Usually once you warm up it gets better. I felt it was getting more sore."

He isn't sure if the three-hour bus ride to Columbus contributed to the injury.

"When you're sitting there it's tightening up," he said. "It's probably not the best for it but I don't think it's the sole reason. It probably didn't help."

Jakub Voracek, Derick Brassard and Rick Nash each had a goal and an assist, and Michael Blunden and Derek MacKenzie also scored for Columbus. Evgeni Malkin scored the Penguins' first goal and assisted on Nate Guenin's short-handed goal.

Columbus left wing Kristian Huselius and defenseman Mike Commodore did not play because of the flu and might miss the final preseason games Saturday and Sunday.

Columbus improved to 3-2-1, while Stanley Cup champion Pittsburgh dropped to 1-3-1.

Ringgold coach is pleased after 2-0 loss to Peters Twp.

Ronnie Fransko says his Rams hung tough with highly-touted Indians.

By BILL HUGHES
The Valley Independent

CARROLL TOWNSHIP - When your team plays a highly-touted opponent and plays them even for most of the contest, coaches tend to be happy.

After the Rams' 2-0 loss to Peters Township Thursday night, Ringgold coach Ronnie Fransko was pumped but realistic.

"That is a great team and we hung with them," he said with his expression going from happy to a "what if" tone. "But if one of our chances in the second half would have went in, who knows?"

Ringgold had five legitimate scoring chances in the last ten minutes with the two best coming in the final five minutes.

Sophomore Todd Sherred put a shot on Peters' goal keeper Parker Ulrich, but the junior knocked the ball away and he also stopped Ringgold's subsequent rebound attempt.

With 2:28 left, senior Justin Mazzeo put a shot on Ulrich that would have gotten past most goalieís, but Ulrich stopped it.

"Ulrich played a great game," Fransko said. "There's a reason why he's in goal."

The contest was scoreless until the 14:23 mark of the first half when junior Jesse Scheirer put a head ball into the back of the Ringgold net.

Then 7:01 later, sophomore Zach Partyka added a second head ball goal for the Indians (5-1-1, 4-0).

Despite the loss, Fransko shared his thoughts with the team.

"I told them that I was proud to be their high school coach," he said. "We pushed Peters to their limit. If we catch a break and put a ball in, it is a different game.î

Ringgold (6-3, 1-3) is at Trinity Saturday night to close out the first half of the section.

Tough loss for BVA booters

By BILL HUGHES
For The Valley Independent

This has been a frustrating week for Belle Vernon Area's soccer team in Class AA Section 3.

It started Tuesday with a 2-1 loss at Southmoreland.

Last night it continued with a 1-0 loss to South Park at James Weir Stadium.

"We battled hard," said BVA coach Chris Stasicha. "They are a top-three team and played right with them. Garrett McLaughlin had another huge game for us with three or four big saves.

"We are playing these teams even but we just aren't quite getting the outcome we want."

The Leps (6-3-1, 3-2-1) are at Yough Saturday night.

ELIZABETH FORWARD 15, YOUGH 0

The Warriors rolled over the winless Cougars.

Tyler Abels scored four goals to raise his season total to 19 with Cam Easler getting the hat trick. Nick Ragan added two goals with Nate Palko, Deren Breitinger, Ryan Lizik and John Turek getting the other goals.

Breitinger also had five assists with Aaron Matta making five saves for his second straight shutout.

"We were able to get our younger guys a lot of time," said EF coach Dave King. "It was good to get them the experience."

The Warriors (5-5, 3-3) are at Southmoreland Saturday night.

TRINITY CHRISTIAN 5, CALIFORNIA 1

Amanda Tressor scored the Trojans' goal.

"We came out with a goal scoring chance and it put us down," said California coach Adam Obranovich. "We were never able to really recover from it."

The Trojans (4-5-1, 2-3-1) host Brownsville Saturday.

South Carolina tops Ole Miss, 16-0

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Steve Spurrier could learn to enjoy winning like this.

South Carolina's head ball coach pulled off one of the biggest wins in school history, watching his defense shut down No. 4 Mississippi and star passer Jevan Snead in a 16-10 victory Thursday night.

Spurrier came to the campus in November 2004, ready to light up scoreboards and blast through the Southeastern Conference the way he did for 12 stellar seasons at Florida. Instead, he's watched his defense grit out South Carolina's most significant victories since then.

"Obviously, it was a defensive struggle, and our defense was sensational," Spurrier said with a grin.

"All of us on defense like to go out there and hit," Gamecocks safety Chris Culliver said. "So yeah, that was a big play that we knew he was going to make."

Ole Miss (2-1, 0-1) became the latest victim of what's been a weekly slew of top-5 upsets.

They were on one of Sports Illustrated's preview covers and Snead was a confident junior who even earned Spurrier's vote — at least before he changed it to Florida's Tim Tebow after a summertime SEC witchhunt — for first team preseason quarterback.

But Ole Miss, which had averaged more than 48 points and 424 yards its first two games, managed 10 points and 248 yards against South Carolina (3-1, 1-1).

SPORTS HISTORY

30 Years Ago

Charleroi's Willie Davis was listed in good condition after suffering a neck injury in the Cougars' 15-14 upset win over Monessen.

20 Years Ago

Merril Hoge and Tim Worley both ran for scores and Bubby Brister threw a touchdown pass to former Viking Mike Mularkey as the previously winless Pittsburgh Steelers dropped Minnesota, 27-14, in the biggest upset in the three week-old NFL season.

Joe Montana threw four fourth quarter touchdown passes in San Francisco's 38-28 win in Philadelphia.

10 Years Ago

After a 40-minute delay because of lightning, Ringgold rolled to a 51-7 win at Trinity with Jeremy Cole scoring two touchdowns.

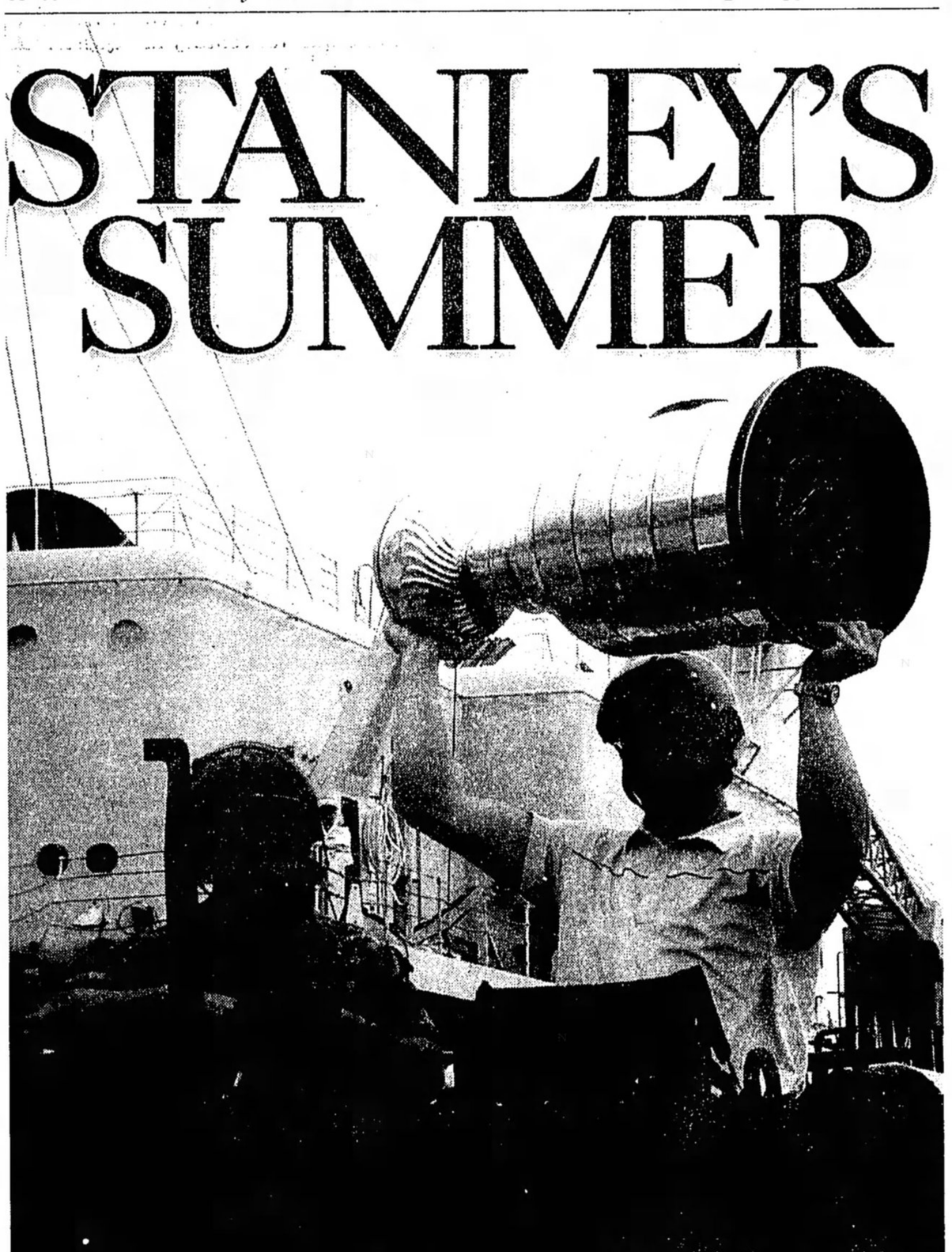
Nick Kalcevic ran for 230 yards and three touchdowns in Belle Vernon Area's 54-7 romp at Peters Township.

California lost leading rusher Bobby Houston in a 21-13 defeat to visiting Frazier.

DeAngelo Jackson's 67-yard fumble return for a touchdown highlighted Monessen's 20-0 win at West Greene.

Pat Risha ran for 246 yards and four touchdowns in Elizabeth Forward's 29-7 victory at Mt. Pleasant.

STANLEY'S SUMMER



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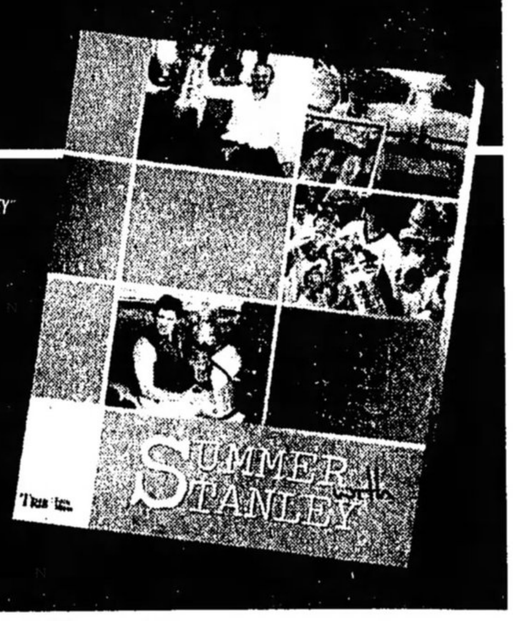


SPORTS

Major League Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	89	63	.586	—
Atlanta	82	70	.539	7
Florida	82	71	.536	7 1/2
New York	65	88	.425	24 1/2
Washington	52	100	.342	37

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	89	64	.582	—
Chicago	79	73	.520	9 1/2
Milwaukee	75	78	.490	14
Cincinnati	72	81	.471	17
Houston	71	81	.467	17 1/2
Pittsburgh	56	95	.371	32

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	92	61	.601	—
Colorado	86	67	.562	6
San Francisco	82	71	.536	10
San Diego	71	83	.461	21 1/2
Arizona	66	87	.431	26

Thursday's Games

Cincinnati 4, Pittsburgh 1
L.A. Dodgers 7, Washington 6
Philadelphia 9, Milwaukee 4
San Diego 5, Colorado 4
Chicago Cubs 3, San Francisco 2

Today's Games

Atlanta (J.Vazquez 14-9) at Washington (Lannan 9-12), 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Garland 11-11) at Pittsburgh (Karstens 3-5), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Redding 3-6) at Florida (Nolasco 12-9), 7:10 p.m.
Cincinnati (Maloney 1-4) at Houston (Moehler 8-10), 8:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Cl.Lee 7-2) at Milwaukee (M.Parra 10-10), 8:05 p.m.
St. Louis (C.Carpenter 16-4) at Colorado (Cook 10-6), 8:10 p.m.
San Diego (Correia 11-10) at Arizona (Scherzer 9-10), 9:40 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Zambrano 8-6) at San Francisco (Lincecum 14-6), 10:15 p.m.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-New York	97	56	.634	—
Boston	91	61	.599	5 1/2
Tampa Bay	78	74	.513	18 1/2
Toronto	69	84	.451	28
Baltimore	60	92	.395	36 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	82	70	.539	—
Minnesota	79	73	.520	3
Chicago	73	80	.477	9 1/2
Kansas City	63	90	.412	19 1/2
Cleveland	61	91	.401	21

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	90	62	.592	—
Texas	83	69	.546	7
Seattle	80	73	.523	10 1/2
Oakland	73	80	.477	17 1/2

y-clinched playoff berth

Thursday's Games

Oakland 12, Texas 3
Detroit 6, Cleveland 5
Seattle 5, Toronto 4
Boston 10, Kansas City 3

Today's Games

Baltimore (Da.Hernandez 4-8) at Cleveland (Carmona 3-12), 7:05 p.m.
Boston (Lester 14-7) at N.Y. Yankees (Chamberlain 8-6), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Fister 2-3) at Toronto (Halladay 15-10), 7:07 p.m.
Tampa Bay (J.Shields 10-11) at Texas (Holland 7-12), 8:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Pavano 12-11) at Kansas City (Tejeda 4-1), 8:10 p.m.
Detroit (Bonine 0-0) at Chicago White Sox (Peavy 1-0), 8:11 p.m.
Oakland (G.Gonzalez 5-6) at L.A. Angels (Jer.Weaver 15-7), 10:05 p.m.

Pirates boxscore

CINCINNATI	ab	r	h	bi	PITTSBURGH	ab	r	h	bi
Tavers cf	4	1	2	0	AMcCt rf	3	0	0	0
Sutton ss	3	1	1	1	DIwYn 2b	4	0	0	0
Janish ss	0	0	0	0	GJones 1b	3	0	1	0
Votto 1b	4	1	1	2	Milledg lf	4	1	1	1
BPhllps 2b	4	0	2	1	Moss rf	4	0	1	0
Rolen 3b	4	0	0	0	AnLRc 3b	3	0	1	0
Gomes rf	3	0	0	0	SJcksn p	0	0	0	0
Bruce rf	1	0	0	0	Doumit ph	1	0	1	0
Balentn lf	3	0	1	0	Jarmll c	4	0	1	0
Hanign c	2	0	0	0	L.Cruz ss	3	0	1	0
Arroyo p	2	1	0	0	Morton p	1	0	0	0
JFrncs ph	1	0	0	0	NWalkr 3b	1	0	0	0
Masset p	0	0	0	0					
Corder p	0	0	0	0					
Totals	31	4	7	4	Totals	31	1	7	1

Cincinnati	004	000	000	— 4
Pittsburgh	000	000	100	— 1

DP—Cincinnati 2, Pittsburgh 3. LOB—Cincinnati 2, Pittsburgh 6. 2B—Sutton (4), Votto (32), An.LaRoche (22). HR—Milledge (3). S—Morton.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Cincinnati						
Arroyo W,14-13	7	5	1	1	1	4
Masset H,19	1	0	0	0	0	2
Cordero	1	2	0	0	1	1
Pittsburgh						
Morton L,4-9	7	6	4	4	2	3
S.Jackson	2	1	0	0	0	3

Umpires—Home, Todd Tichenor; First, James Hoye; Second, Tim Tschida; Third, Bob Davidson.
T—2:40. A—15,892 (38,362).

NHL preseason

Thursday's Games

N.Y. Rangers 3, Washington 2
Philadelphia 2, New Jersey 1, OT
Columbus 5, Pittsburgh 2
Boston 2, Montreal 1, SO
St. Louis 4, Minnesota 1
Dallas 3, Colorado 2
Tampa Bay 4, Edmonton 3, OT
Anaheim 3, Vancouver 2, OT

Today's Games

Boston at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Anaheim at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

WNBA playoffs

SEMIFINALS
(Best-of-3)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Today

Detroit at Indiana, 7 p.m., Detroit leads series 1-0

x-Saturday, Sept. 26

Detroit at Indiana, 7 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Today

Los Angeles at Phoenix, 10 p.m., Phoenix leads series 1-0

x-Saturday, Sept. 26

Los Angeles at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

Tiger Woods goes for the lead in the Tour Championship, 1 p.m., on The Golf Channel.

Sports dial

Today
Television

1 p.m. - Golf Channel - The Tour Championship, golf.
1:30 p.m. - ESPN23 - Dover 200, auto racing.
6:30 p.m. - Golf Channel - CVBS Challenge, golf.
6:30 p.m. - WCAL - High school roundup, football, tape.
7:05 p.m. - WTBS - Boston at New York Yankees, baseball.
7:05 p.m. - Fox Sports - Los Angeles Dodgers at Pittsburgh, baseball.
9 p.m. - ESPN - Missouri at Nevada, college football.

Radio

7 p.m. - WEAE (1250) - Bethel Park at Woodland Hills, high school football.
7 p.m. - KQV (1410) - Chartiers Valley at West Mifflin, high school football.
7 p.m. - WLSW (103.9 FM) - Mt. Pleasant at Grb. Central, high school football.
7:05 p.m. - WPGB(104.7 FM) - Los Angeles Dodgers at Pittsburgh, baseball.
7:10 p.m.- WBGG (970) - Moon at Montour, high school football.
7:30 p.m. - WMBS (590) - Albert Gallatin at Uniontown, high school football.
7:30 p.m. - WJPA (95.3 FM) - Burgettstown at Chartiers-Houston, high school football.
7:30 p.m. - WQTW (1570) -Derry at Yough, high school football.
7:30 p.m..- WJPA (1450) - East Allegheny at Washington, high school football.
7:30 p.m. - WJAS (1320) - North Allegheny at Penn Hills, high school football.

High school football

Class AAA
Big Seven Conference

	League W	L	Overall W	L
Thomas Jefferson	1	0	3	0
Chartiers Valley	1	0	3	0
West Mifflin	1	0	3	0
Ringgold	0	0	2	1
Belle Vernon Area	0	1	2	1
Elizabeth Forward	0	1	2	1
Trinity	0	1	0	3

Today

Thomas Jefferson at Ringgold
Elizabeth Forward at Trinity
Chartiers Valley at West Mifflin
Greensburg Salem at BV Area

Keystone Conference

	Con. W	L	Overall W	L
Uniontown	1	0	2	1
Greensburg Salem	1	0	2	1
Laurel Highlands	1	0	1	2
Southmoreland	0	0	0	3
Albert Gallatin	0	1	1	2
Yough	0	1	0	3
Derry	0	1	0	3

Today

Derry at Yough
Albert Gallatin at Uniontown
Laurel Highlands at S'moreland
Greensbug Salem at BV Area

Class AA
Interstate Conference

	Con. W	L	Overall W	L
Jeannette	3	0	3	0
Mt. Pleasant	3	0	3	0
Greensburg Central	2	1	2	1
Charleroi	2	1	2	1
McGuffey	2	1	2	1
Waynesburg	1	2	1	2
Brownsville	1	2	1	2
Washington	1	2	1	2
South Allegheny	0	3	0	3
East Allegheny	0	3	0	3

Today

South Allegheny at Charleroi
Brownsville at McGuffey
East Allegheny at Washington
Mt. Pleasant at Grb. Central
Waynesburg at Jeannette

Class A
Tri-County South

	Con. W	L	Overall W	L
Jefferson-Morgan	1	0	3	0
California	1	0	2	1
Beth-Center	1	0	2	1
Monessen	1	0	1	2
Geibel	0	1	1	2
Carmichaels	0	1	0	3
West Greene	0	1	0	3
Mapletown	0	1	0	3

Today

Monessen at West Greene
Carmichaels at Mapletown
Jefferson-Morgan at Beth-Center

Saturday

California at Geibel (Noon)

Black Hills Conference

	Con. W	L	Overall W	L
Fort Cherry	1	0	3	0
Chartiers-Houston	1	0	3	0
Serra	1	0	3	0
Clairton	1	0	2	1
Bentworth	0	1	1	2
Avella	0	1	1	2
Frazier	0	1	1	2
Burgettstown	0	1	1	2

Today

Clairton at Bentworth
Avella at Frazier
Fort Cherry at Serra
Burgettstown at C-Houston

PSAC football standings

West Division

	Conf. W	L	Overall W	L
Edinboro	1	0	3	1
California	1	0	2	2
Clarion	1	0	2	2
Mercyhurst	1	0	2	2
Indiana	0	1	3	1
Slippery Rock	0	1	3	1
Gannon	0	1	2	2
Lock Haven	0	1	0	3

Saturday

Noon - Edinboro at Gannon
2 p.m. - Mercyhurst at Lock Haven
3 p.m. - Clarion at California
7 p.m.- Indiana at Slippery Rock

Boys' soccer standings

Class AAA
Section 5

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Peters Township	4	0	0	5	1	1
Canon-McMillan	3	1	0	7	1	0
Upper St. Clair	3	1	0	6	1	1
Ringgold	1	3	0	6	3	0
Moon	1	3	0	2	4	1
Trinity	0	4	0	2	8	0

Thursday

Peters Township 2, Ringgold 0
Canon-McMillan 1, Moon 0
Upper St. Clair 6,Trinity 0

Saturday

Ringgold at Trinity
C-McMillan at Peters Township
Upper St. Clair at Moon

Class AA
Section 3

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
South Park	6	0	0	7	1	0
S'moreland	5	1	0	5	3	0
Belle Vernon Area	3	2	1	6	3	1
Thomas Jefferson	3	2	1	4	4	1
Elizabeth Forward	3	3	0	5	5	0
Steel Valley	1	4	0	2	5	0
Uniontown	1	4	0	1	7	0
Yough	0	6	0	0	6	0

Thursday

South Park 1, BV Area 0
S'moreland 4, Thomas Jefferson 1
Elizabeth Forward 15, Yough 0

Saturday

BV Area at Yough
S'moreland at Uniontown
Steel Valley at South Park

Class A
Section 1

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Grb. Central	6	0	0	6	1	0
Serra	4	2	0	6	2	0
Trinity Christian	4	2	0	5	2	0
Geibel	3	3	0	5	3	0
California	2	3	1	4	5	1
Winch. Thurston	2	2	1	2	3	1
South Allegheny	1	4	0	1	5	0
Brownsville	0	6	0	0	9	0

Thursday

Trinity Christian 5, California 1
Grb. Central 2, Geibel 0
Serra 10, Brownsville 1

Saturday

Grb. Central at Califonria
Brownsville at Geibel
South Allegheny at Serra
Trinity Christian at Winchester Thurston

Section 4

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Carlynton	4	0	0	6	1	0
Bentworth	4	1	0	4	5	0
Charleroi	3	1	0	6	2	0
C-Houston	3	3	0	3	6	1
Monessen	2	3	0	4	4	0
Brentwood	1	4	0	2	4	0
Beth-Center	0	5	0	3	5	0

Thursday

Bentworth 3, C-Houston 1
Brentwood 2, Beth-Center 1

Saturday

Charleroi at Monessen
Bentworth at Beth-Center
Brentwood at Carlynton
Sacred Heart at C-Houston

Girls' soccer standings

Class AAA
Section 5

	League W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Mt. Lebanon	4	0	0	5	2	0
Upper St. Clair	4	0	0	4	2	0
Canon-McMillan	3	1	0	6	3	0
Trinity	2	2	0	4	3	0
Elizabeth Forward	1	3	0	2	6	0
Ringgold	1	4	0	3	6	0
West Mifflin	0	5	0	1	7	0

Today

Upper St. Clair at Canon-McMillan
West Mifflin at Mt. Lebanon

Saturday

Elizabeth Forward at Trinity
Mt. Lebanon at Erie McDowell

Section 6

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Southmoreland	4	0	1	4	1	1
Belle Vernon Area	4	0	1	6	2	1
Yough	3	2	0	5	3	0
Connellsville	3	2	0	4	5	0
Waynesburg	3	2	0	4	4	0
Uniontown	1	4	0	2	5	0
Laurel Highlands	1	4	0	2	6	0
Albert Gallatin	0	5	0	0	7	0

Today

Yough at Laurel Highlands

Saturday

Waynesburg at BV Area
Connellsville at Albert Gallatin

Class AA
Section 1

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
South Park	5	0	0	7	1	0
South Fayette	5	0	0	6	1	1
McGuffey	3	2	0	4	4	0
Charleroi	2	3	0	5	5	0
Bentworth	1	3	0	4	4	0
Beth-Center	0	4	0	2	5	0
C-Houston	0	4	0	0	8	0

Thursday

South Fayette 4, McGuffey 1

Saturday

Charleroi at Bentworth
Beth-Center at C-Houston

Section 6

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Geibel	5	0	0	7	2	0
Mt. Pleasant	4	1	0	6	2	0
Grb. Central	3	1	0	7	2	1
Jeannette	2	2	1	3	4	2
St. Joseph	1	4	0	2	6	0
Monessen	0	3	1	2	4	1
East Allegheny	0	4	0	1	5	0

Thursday

Geibel 2 Jeannette 0

Saturday

Monesen at Grb. Central

Youth football

Mon Valley Leagie
Midgets
Northern Division

	W	L	T
Elizabeth Forward	3	1	0
Norwin	3	1	0
Yough	3	1	0
South Allegheny	0	4	0

Eastern Division

	W	L	T
Rostraver	3	1	0
Frazier	3	1	0
Monessen	3	1	0
Southmoreland	2	2	0

Southern Division

	W	L	T
Beth-Center	3	1	0
California	2	2	0
Bentworth	0	4	0
Brownsville	0	4	0

Western Division

	W	L	T
Donora	4	0	0
Charleroi	2	1	1
Union-Finley	0	3	1
Monongahela	0	4	0

Last week's results

Beth-Center 32, Bentworth 8
Charleroi 20, Union-Finley 20
Caliofnria 36, Brownsville 18
Fr azier 14, Rostraver 12
Monessen 20, S'moreland 8
Norwin 24, South Allegheny 12
Yough 13, Elizabeth Forward 8

Mighty Mites
Northern Division

	W	L	T
Norwin	3	1	0
South Allegheny	2	2	0
Elizabeth Forward	1	3	0
Yough	0	4	0

Eastern Division

	W	L	T
Frazier	3	1	0
Rostraver	4	0	0
Monessen	2	2	0
Southmoreland	0	4	0

Southern Division

	W	L	T
Brownsville	4	0	0
California	2	2	0
Beth-Center	1	3	0
Bentworth	0	4	0

Western Division

	W	L	T
Union-Finley	4	0	0
Monongahela	3	0	0
Donora	2	2	0
Charleroi	0	3	0

Last week's results

Beth-Center 44, Bentworth 0
Monongahela 18, Donora 8
Union-Finley 34, Charleroi 0
Brownsville 34, California 0
Rostraver 32, Frazier 14
Monessen 34, S'moreland 0
Norwin 32, South Allegheny 6
Elizabeth Forward 6, Yough 0

Termites
Northern Division

	W	L	T
Elizabeth Forward	4	0	0
Norwin	4	0	0
South Allegheny	2	2	0
Yough	0	4	0

Eastern Division

	W	L	T
Monessen	4	0	0
Rostraver	4	0	0
Frazier	2	2	0
Southmoreland	0	4	0

Southern Division

	W	L	T
California	3	1	0
Beth-Center	2	2	0
Brownsville	1	3	0
Bentworth	0	4	0

Western Division

	W	L	T
Union-Finley	2	2	0
Charleroi	1	2	1
Monongahela	0	2	1
Donora	0	3	1

Last week's results

Beth-Center 30, Bentworth 16
Monongahela 6, Donora 6
Union-Finley 14, Charleroi0
California 12, Brownsville 6
Rostraver 30, Frazier 6
Monessen 16, S'moreland 0
Norwin 22, South Allegheny 6
Yough 18, Elizabeth Forward 6

Schedule
Saturday

Noon - Charleroi at Monessen; Frazier at Donora; Southmorland at Monongahela

Sunday

Noon - Beth-Center at Elizabeth Forward; California at Norwin; Charleroi at Monongahela' Union-Finley at Rostraver; Yough at Bentworth; South Allegheny at Brownsville.

Tiny Mites
Northern Division

	W	L	T
Yough	4	0	0
Elizabeth Forward	3	1	0
Norwin	3	1	0
South Allegheny	1	3	0

Eastern Division

	W	L	T
Monessen	4	0	0
Rostraver	4	0	0
Frazier	1	2	1
Southmoreland	0	4	0

Southern Division

	W	L	T
California	3	1	0
Beth-Center	2	1	1
Brownsville	1	3	0
Bentworth	0	4	0

Western Division

	W	L	T
Union-Finley	2	2	0
Charleroi	1	2	0
Monongahela	0	2	1
Donora	0	3	1

Last week's results

Beth-Center 30, Bentworth 24
Monongahela 22, Donora 8
Charleroi 28, Union-Finley 0
California 30, Brownsville 0
Rostraver 20, Frazier 0
Monessen 28, S'moreland 14
Norwin 20, South Allegheny 12
Elizabeth Forward 30, Yough 0

Area golf

At Duck Hollow
Belle Vernon Area - 197

Bo Lustig, 36; Tyber Lustig and Kirby Manown, 39; Kyle Naden, 41; Brad Antal, 42. Non-count: Sean Molchan, 51.

Albert Gallatin - 207

Mike Petrun, 39; Brandon Sutton and Caleb Voithofer, 41; Mark Bartock, 42; Patrick McDonough, 44.

At Pleasant Valley Country Club
Ringgold - 213

Mike Yavorsky, 36; Rico Rodriguez, 41; Connor Kane, 42; Nick Feld,46; Colin mcCormick, 48. Non-count: Devin DiPiazza, 50.

Connellsville - 215

Johnny Leonard and Eric Harrer, 39; Tyler Stillwagon, 43; Tyler Broadwater, 46; Justin Teets, 48. Non-count: Luke Giles. 51.

At Mon Valley Country Club
Charleroi - 211

Eric Anderson, 40; Brandon Konek, 41; Evan Wysochanski, 42; Kirk Melenyzer, 43; DerekSergi, 45. Non-count: Martin Maytas, 51.

Geibel - 222

Ryan Robson, 40; Chase Blout, 43; Shawn Erdely, 44; Mike Noonan, 45; Ryan Lucostic, 50. Non-count: Mike Spegar, 52.

At Cedarbrook
California - 202

David Beck, 37; Dom Roach and Phil Langley, 39; Zac Edmiston, 43; Tyler Van Olst, 44. Non-count: Nick Roberts, 46.

Jeff-Morgan - 213

Josh Kokoska, 38; Zach Berkstresser, 41;Alex Rush and Joe DeFrancesco, 42; Brandon Faieta, 50. Non-count: Brendon Edwards, 56.

At Linden Hall
Frazier - 216

Tyler Rock, 35; Robert Gondura, 39; Nick Hawranko, 46; Eddie Miller, 47; DJ Hudik, 49. Non-count: Zach Smalich, 53.

Jeannette - 235

Matt DePointe and Jordan Ault, 44 Matt Scherff, 46; Bill Avolio, 49; Jordan Nalevanko, 52. Non-count: Brandon Howe, 55.

Sports moves

BASEBALL
National League

PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Claimed RHP Anthony Claggett off waivers from the N.Y. Yankees. Transferred RHP Jose Ascanio to the 60-day DL.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association

MIAMI HEAT—Named Alonzo Mourning vice president of player programs.

NEW YORK KNICKS-Re-signed F David Lee to a one-year contract.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

NFL—Fined Pittsburgh Steelers safety Tyrone Carter $5,000 for a hit on Bears tight end Greg Olsen.

CAROLINA PANTHERS—Signed DE Maurice Evans to the practice squad.

CLEVELAND BROWNS—Signed DB Marquis Floyd to practice squad. Released WR Lance Leggett from practice squad.

HOUSTON TEXANS—Placed LG Chester Pitts on injured reserve. Signed S Bernard Pollard.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Signed C Ryan Wendell to the practice squad. Released OT Patrick Brown from the practice squad.

NEW YORK GIANTS—Placed S Kenny Phillips on injured reserve. Claimed S Aaron Rouse off waivers from Green Bay.

NEW YORK JETS—Signed TE Matthew Mulligan to the practice squad.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Signed LB Alvin Bowen to the practice squad. Released LB Darrel Young from the practice squad.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League

ATLANTA THRASHERS—Acquired D Steve McCarthy from Anaheim for future considerations.

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS—Recalled F Bryan Bickell and F Rob Klinkhammer from Rockford (AHL). Waived F Danny Bois and D Richard Petit.

COLORADO AVALANCHE—Signed F Milan Hejduk to a one-year contract extension through the 2010-11 season.

DETROIT RED WINGS—Assigned D Travis Ehrhardt, D Sergei Kolosov, D Sebastien Piche, F Jamie Tardif adn F Tomas Tatar to Grand Rapids (AHL). Released F Francis Lemieux and F John Vigilante and assigned them to Grand Rapids.

MONTREAL CANADIENS—Announced the retirement of D Patrice Brisebois.

PHOENIX COYOTES—Announced the resignation of coach Wayne Gretzky. Signed Dave Tippett coach to a four-year contract. Sent G Al Montoya, D Shaun Heshka, F Jeff Hoggan, F Joel Perrault and F David Spina to San Antonio (AHL).

VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Signed coach Alain Vigneault to a a contract extension through the 2012-13 season.

COLLEGE

ARMY—Fired men's basketball coach Jim Crews.

Latest Line

NFL

Favorite	Points	Underdog
Sunday, Sept 27		
Week Three		
NY JETS	2 1/2 (37)	Tennessee
HOUSTON	4 (47)	Jacksonville
PHILADELPHIA	9 (42)	Kansas City
BALTIMORE	13 1/2(39)	Cleveland
NY Giants	6 1/2 (44)	TAMPA BAY
Washington	6 (38)	DETROIT
Green Bay	6 1/2 (41)	ST. LOUIS
MINNESOTA	7 (40)	San Fran
N. ENGLAND	4 1/2 (44)	Atlanta
Chicago	2 (37)	SEATTLE
New Orleans	6 (53)	BUFFALO
SAN DIEGO	6 (43)	Miami
Pittsburgh	4 (37)	CINCINNATI
Denver	1 1/2 (36)	OAKLAND
Indianapolis	2 1/2 (48)	ARIZONA
Monday, Sept 28		
DALLAS	9 (47)	Carolina

College Football

Favorite	Points	Underdog
Missouri	7 1/2	NEVADA
Saturday, Sept 26		
Wake Forest	1	BOS. COLLEGE
OHIO ST	14	Illinois
N'WESTERN	2 1/2	Minnesota
MICHIGAN	21	Indiana
TEMPLE	2 1/2	Buffalo
WISCONSIN	3	Michigan St
CLEMSON	2 1/2	Tcu
Rutgers	2 1/2	MARYLAND
Boise St	17	BOWLING GREEN
TENNESSEE	21 1/2	Ohio
E. CAROLINA	11	Central Florida
CINCINNATI	16 1/2	Fresno St
C. MICHIGAN	16 1/2	Akron
Lsu	13 1/2	MISSISSIPPI ST
IOWA ST	10	Army
MEMPHIS	3 1/2	Marshall
TEXAS A&M	15	Ala-Birmingham
KANSAS	13 1/2	Southern Miss
AIR FORCE	16 1/2	San Diego St
Vanderbilt	8	RICE
AUBURN	32	Ball St
Unlv	5 1/2	WYOMING
ALABAMA	17	Arkansas
Florida	21 1/2	KENTUCKY
GEORGIA	12 1/2	Arizona St
California	6	OREGON
FLORIDA ST	14 1/2	South Florida
GA TECH	2 1/2	North Carolina
N. ILLINOIS	16	Idaho
BYU	15	Colorado St
NC STATE	1 1/2	Pittsburgh
STANFORD	7	Washington
KENT ST	7 1/2	Miami-Ohio

SPORTS DIGEST

Cal booters blank Washi. Adventist

California University's soccer team hosts Bloomsburg Saturday at noon following a 4-0 win over visiting Washington Adventist (Md.), formerly Columbia Union.

Senior Mike Luecke had two second half goals to raise his career total to 46 for fourth on the school's all-time list. With 113 career points, Luecke is third on the school's scoring ladder.

Steve Nese and Justin Taucher scored Cal's other goals in the first half.

Charlie Dagnal and Derek Yobbi combined for the shutout for the Vulcans (5-3).

BV Area cagers down Monessen

Belle Vernon Area Middle School's basketball team rolled over Monessen, 39-12.

Megan Staley topped the Little Lady Lepos (6-2, 5-0) with 14 points. Sarah Mickey had nine points for Monessen.

BV Area booters blank Uniontown

Belle Vernon Area Middle School's soccer team dropped Uniontown, 6-0.

Scoring goals for the Little Lady Leps were Hannah Braun, Kelsy Lawson, Hayden Pascoe, Ashley Gagliardi, Emily Gagliardi and Sarah McCullough.

BVA volleyballers lose to Derry

Belle Vernon Area's volleyball team was a 3-0 loser to Dedrry.

The Lady Leps bowed by 25-5, 25-20 and 25-13 scores with Cerria Vasquez getting five service points and Mary Beth Spang four kills.

Gretzky done as Coyotes' coach

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Wayne Gretzky's tenure as coach of the Phoenix Coyotes, ended abruptly Thursday when he stepped down amid the financial turmoil surrounding the team.

Former Dallas Stars coach Dave Tippett was brought in to replace Gretzky

Steelers' Carter fined $5,000

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh Steelers safety Tyrone Carter has been fined $5,000 for a hit that left him with a bruised left thigh.

The NFL penalized Carter on Thursday for his hit on Chicago tight end Greg Olsen last weekend.

Trivia answer

Jack Garrity.

O'Hair takes early Tour lead

ATLANTA (AP) — Sean O'Hair got a putting tip from Tiger Woods and put it to good use at the Tour Championship, opening with a 4-under 66 to take a one-shot lead.

Woods recovered from a shaky start with three birdies during a four-hole stretch on the back nine for a 67, leaving him tied for second with Padraig Harrington and Stewart Cink.

REMEMBER when?

Donora's Bill Urbanik was in his first year as the Cincinnati Bengals' defensive line coach in 1984.

TV LISTINGS

Father-to-be awaits babies with wife and mistress

Dear ABBY

DOUBLE-WHAMMIED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR ABBY: Our son, "Philip," has been married for two years.

He recently informed his wife, "Karla," that one of his co-workers — I'll call her Sarah — is pregnant with his child. Philip says he still loves Karla and wants to stay together, but he feels an obligation to the other child. Karla is now pregnant with their first baby.

The problem is, Philip is spending most of his time at Sarah's home caring for her, and very little time with his wife.

My wife and I don't know how we should handle the relationship with the two grandchildren

What are our obligations to each? Should we treat them both the same

By the way, my wife and I have never met Sarah. — **DOUBLE-WHAMMIED**: None of this is the fault of your grandchildren, so think with your hearts and treat them equally.

Forgive me if this seems pessimistic, but from your description of your son's behavior, I seriously doubt that his marriage to Karla is going to last. So don't worry about not having met Sarah. If he continues to spend the lion's share of his time with her, the chances are good that you'll be seeing quite a bit of her in the future.

DEAR ABBY: "Robert" and I have been married for 10 years. A few months ago I discovered that he'd had an affair. He says it was because he felt I didn't love him anymore and we weren't communicating. I have never stopped loving him.

The funny thing is, I felt the same way he did — upset that he was spending more time away from home. We're now trying to work things out, but it's hard for me. I keep learning more information about their relationship, and it breaks my heart all over again. I know who she is and what she looks like.

I'll be seeing this woman at a bridal shower soon, and later on this fall at a wedding. Robert says she doesn't know what I look like. I am tempted to pretend to be someone else and quiz her about their relationship.

I'm just so lost. I want to let all of this go and move on, but I haven't been able to. How do I handle the upcoming events with her? I love Robert, and he's trying to make things right. — **BROKEN AND LOST IN ILLINOIS**

DEAR BROKEN AND LOST: Are you masochistic? You know about the affair; you and Robert are trying to work things out. So quit digging because whatever you unearth will only prolong your pain and insecurity. Your time would be better spent on improving the level of communication you have with your husband. And if you're afraid you'll fall apart or do something inappropriate at the sight of his former love, then my advice is to skip the festivities.

DEAR ABBY: Dinner guests customarily bring gifts of wine to their hosts. The host offers wine with the dinner.

If a second bottle is desired, which wine would be used — more from the host or is it better etiquette to open and serve the gift wine? — **BILL IN BEND, ORE.**

DEAR BILL: It is not considered a breach of etiquette to keep the gift wine for use at another time, and the guest who brings it should not expect it to be served. (The same goes for candy and nuts, which are also popular house gifts.)

(Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.)

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

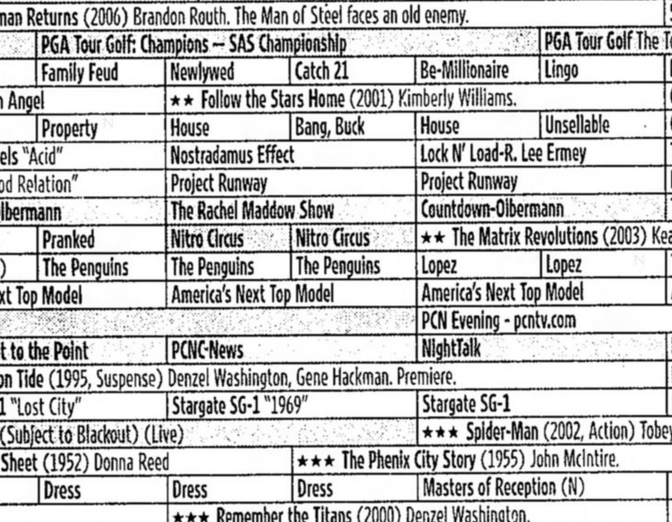
FRIDAY EVENING

MOVIES | TALK | NEWS | KIDS | SPORTS

SEP. 25, 2009

	6PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30	12AM	12:30	1AM	1:30	2AM	2:30
CBS (2) KDKA (7) WTRF (10) WTAJ	(2) KDKA-TV News at Six (N) (7) News (N) (10) WTAJ News at 6 (N)	(7) (10) CBS Evening News With Katie Couric (N)	(2) CBS Evening News-Couric (7) Entertainment (10) Inside	(2) The Insider (N) (7) Inside Edition (N) (10) Two and a Half Men	Ghost Whisperer "Birthday Presence" (Season Premiere) Melinda gives birth to a son who has inherited her gift for seeing spirits. (N)		Medium "Deja Vu All Over Again" (Season Premiere) Allison and her family cope with the outcome of her brain surgery. (N)		NUMB3RS "Hangman" (Season Premiere) The team seeks a sniper with his sights set on a political activist. (N)		(2) KDKA-TV News at 11 (7) News (10) WTAJ News at 11	(:35) Late Show With David Letterman Bruce Willis; LL Cool J; Noisettes. (N)		(:37) The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson Ted Danson; Christopher Miller and Phil Lord. (N)		(2) (:37) Extra (7) (:37) The Dr. Oz Show (10) (:37) Paid Programming	(2) (10) (:07) Paid Programming	(2) (7) (:37) Paid Programming (10) (:37) Cars.TV (N)
ABC (4) WTAE (23) WATM	(4) Action News at 6 (23) Deal No	ABC's World News With Charles Gibson (N)	(4) Channel 4 Action News G20 Special (23) Jeopardy!	(4) Entertainment Tonight (23) Wheel of Fortune	FlashForward Everyone on Earth blacks out and sees events from their own futures.		Modern Family "Pilot"	Cougar Town A recent divorcee tackles dating.	20/20 (N)		(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11 (23) News	(23) (:35) Nightline (N)	(4) Nightline (23) (12:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(4) (:31) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N)	(23) (:06) Paid Programming	(4) (:31) Oprah Winfrey (23) (:35) Paid Programming	(23) (:05) Jerry Springer (N)	(4) (:31) Inside Edition (N)
NBC (6) WJAC (9) WTOV (11) WPXI	(6) WJAC-TV News at 6 PM (N) (9) News (N) (11) Channel 11 News (N)	NBC Nightly News (N)	(6) Entertainment Tonight "The Blind Side." (N) (9) (11) Jeopardy! (N)	(6) Who Wants to Be a Millionaire (N) (9) (11) Wheel of Fortune (N)	Law & Order "Memo From the Dark Side" (Season Premiere) When a young war veteran is found dead, detectives connect the murder to an attorney. (N)		Dateline NBC "The Michael Jackson Tapes" Recordings of conversations Michael Jackson had with Rabbi Shmuley Boteach. (N)		The Jay Leno Show Hugh Laurie. (N)		(6) WJAC-TV News (9) Sports (11) Ch. 11 News	(6) (11) (:35) The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien Teri Hatcher; Seth MacFarlane. (N) (9) (:45) High School Football Brooke vs. Wheeling Park.		(6) (11) (:37) Late Night With Jimmy Fallon Julianna Margulies; Kevin Smith. (N)		(6) (11) (:36) Last Call With Carson Daly Mekhi Phifer; Ladyhawke. (N)	(6) (11) (:05) Poker After Dark (N) (9) (:15) Poker After Dark (Joined in Progress) (N)	
FOX (8) WWCP (53) WPGH	(8) Seinfeld (53) Two and a Half Men	(8) The Simpsons (53) My Name Is Earl	(8) That '70s Show (53) Two and a Half Men	(8) My Name Is Earl (53) Seinfeld	Brothers "Pilot; House Rules-Anniversary" (Series Premiere) Retired NFL player returns to hometown. (N)		Dollhouse "Vows" Echo marries a wealthy businessman connected to one of Ballard's open cases.		(6) Fox 8 News (53) Channel 11 News on FOX 53 at 10	(8) (:35) My Name Is Earl "Creative Writing"	(8) (:05) Everybody Loves Raymond (53) Seinfeld	(8) (:35) Seinfeld (53) My Name Is Earl	(8) Star Trek: The Next Generation (53) Frasier	(53) Paid Programming	(8) (:05) Paid Programming (53) Paid Programming	(8) (:35) Paid Programming (53) Paid Programming	(8) (:05) Paid Programming (53) George Lopez	(8) Paid Program (53) House of Payne
(13) WQED	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Nightly Business Report	Off Q	Washington Week (N)	NOW on PBS (N)	Bill Moyers Journal Rory Stewart; Kavita Ramdas. (N)		Do Not Go Gently		Charlie Rose		Off Q	Smart Travels	Washington Week	NOW on PBS	Bill Moyers Journal Rory Stewart; Kavita Ramdas.	
(19) WPCW	The People's Court (N)		The Office "Basketball"	The Office "Initiation"	Smallville Clark wants to start training with Jor-El.		America's Next Top Model "Make Me Tall"		10 O'Clock News	The Nightly Sports Call	Everybody-Raymond	Malcolm in the Middle	According to Jim	King of the Hill	South Park	Mountaineer Magazine	Paid Programming	Paid Programming
(22) WPMY	Simpsons	Family Guy	Simpsons	Family Guy	WWE Friday Night SmackDown! (N)				Law & Order: SVU		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Paid Program	Paid Program	Bernie Mac	My Wife-Kids	Half & Half	Half & Half
(40) WPCB	The 700 Club (N)		Focus 4		Startling Proofs		Blood	Gospel	In Touch-Dr. Charles Stanley		Nwswtch	The Place for Miracles		TV One Life	The Zone	Travel Road	Youthbytes	Pure Passion
(59) WBGN	Punk'd	Sports Talk	Sports Talk		Eye Eye	RENO 911!	Laguna	RENO 911!	ReGenesis "Spare Parts"		Cheaters	Laguna	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program
A&E	CSI: Miami		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds "Legacy"		CSI: Miami		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds "Legacy"	
ABCFAM	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		America's Funniest Home Videos				The 700 Club (N)		'70s Show	'70s Show	Paid Program	P90X: Proof	Paid Program	Thin Instantly
AMC	(5:30) ★★★ Top Gun (1986) Tom Cruise, Kelly McGillis.				★★★ Ghostbusters (1984, Comedy) Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd.					★★ Ghostbusters II (1989, Comedy) Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd.					★★★ Ghostbusters (1984) Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd.			
ANPL	Weird, True & Freaky		Dogs 101		Untamed and Uncut		Jockeys (N)		Untamed and Uncut		Jockeys		Untamed and Uncut		Untamed and Uncut		Dogs 101	
BBC	Ramsay's Kitchen		BBC World News America		Top Gear		Friday Night-Jonathan Ross		BBC World News America		Top Gear		Friday Night-Jonathan Ross		Top Gear		Friday Night-Jonathan Ross	
BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live				Nora's Hair Salon 2: A Cut Above (2008) Tatyana Ali.				Frankie-Neffe	Frankie-Neffe	The Wendy Williams Show		★ Half Baked (1998, Comedy) Dave Chappelle.				The Wendy Williams Show	
BRAVO	(5:00) ★★★ Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991)				★★★ Training Day (2001) Denzel Washington, Ethan Hawke.					★★★ Training Day (2001) Denzel Washington, Ethan Hawke.					★★★ Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991)			
CMTV	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Usea Family"				Smarter	Smarter	White-Tater		Terry Fator, Las Vegas		CMT Music	Smarter	Smarter	White-Tater		Terry Fator, Las Vegas		CMT Music
CNBC	Mad Money		Kudlow Report		Fast Money	Options	The NEW Age of Wal-Mart			Put It on-Map	Mad Money		Biography		American Greed		Paid Program	Paid Program
CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360	
COM	RENO 911!	Presents	Daily Show	Colbert	Scrubs	Scrubs	Kevin James: Sweat		Dane Cook ISo.		Presents	Presents	Jeff Garlin: Handsome		How High (2001, Comedy) Method Man, Redman.			
CSPAN	House	Tonight From Washington									Capital News Today						Today in Washington	
DISC	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	Somali Pirate Takedown		Hard Time "Indiana"		Gang Wars: Oakland I		Gang Wars: Oakland II		Hard Time "Indiana"		Gang Wars: Oakland I		Gang Wars: Oakland II		Cash Cab	Cash Cab
DISNEY	Phineas-Ferb	Phineas-Ferb	Phineas-Ferb	Phineas-Ferb	Phineas-Ferb	Suite Life	★★★ Meet the Robinsons (2007)			Phineas-Ferb	Phineas-Ferb	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Cory	Replace	Kim Possible	Emperor New	Dragon
E!	E! Investigates: Stalkers		E! News (N)	The Daily 10	Kendra "Keepin' It Real"		Kourtney	Take Miami	The Soup (N)	Reality Hell	Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea	The Soup	Kourtney	Take Miami	Kendra	Chelsea
ESPN	SportsCenter (Live)			NFL Live	College Football Live		College Football Missouri at Nevada. (Live)						SportsCenter (Live)		SportsCenter (Live)		SportsCenter (Live)	
ESPNC	College Football		NBA Finals: 1985: Lakers		Classics	60 Min.	NBA Basketball: 2003 East First Round — Magic at Pistons				Wrestling	Australian Rules Football		(:27) AFL Premiership Football Grand Final — St. Kilda vs. Geelong. (Live)					
ESPN2	Horn	Interruption	Football Live	Interruption	Mike Tyson's Greatest Hits		Boxing		High School Football Lakeland (Fla.) at De La Salle (Calif). (Live)						Baseball	NFL Live (N)	2009 World Series of Poker	
EWTN	Church-Poor	Beatification	Daily Mass: Our Lady		The World Over		Crossing	Holy Rosary	Defending	St Josemaria	Rome	Bookmark	Daily Mass: Our Lady		The World Over		Catholic	Defending
FNC	Special Report		FOX Report-Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor (N)		Hannity (N)		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity		On the Record-Van Susteren		Glenn Beck	
FOOD	Cooking	Minute Meals	Challenge		Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Diners	Diners	Chefs vs. City "New York"		Good Eats	Rachael	Diners	Diners	Chefs vs. City "New York"		Good Eats	Rachael
FSN	Inside-Pirates	Pregame	MLB Baseball Los Angeles Dodgers at Pittsburgh Pirates. From PNC Park in Pittsburgh.						Pirates Post.	Final Score	MLB Baseball Los Angeles Dodgers at Pittsburgh Pirates.				Final Score	Final Score	Best Damn Top 50 Special	
FX	★ Wild Hogs (2007, Comedy) Tim Allen, John Travolta.				★★★ Superman Returns (2006) Brandon Routh. The Man of Steel faces an old enemy.						Sons of Anarchy "Fix"		(12:01) ★★ Spawn (1997, Fantasy) John Leguizamo.				Paid Program	Dual Saw
GOLF	Golf Central	LPGA Tour Golf: CVS/pharmacy LPGA Challenge				PGA Tour Golf: Champions — SAS Championship				PGA Tour Golf The Tour Championship — Second Round.						Golf Central	LPGA Tour Golf	
GSN	Newlywed	Catch 21	Deal or No Deal		Family Feud	Family Feud	Newlywed	Catch 21	Be-Millionaire	Lingo	Deal or No Deal		Be a Millionaire		Jeopardy!	Hollywood	$100,000 Pyr.	Pyramid
HALL	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Touched by an Angel		★★ Follow the Stars Home (2001) Kimberly Williams.				Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Cheers	Cheers
HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House	House	Property	Property	House	Bang, Buck	House	Unsellable	Get It Sold	First Place	Property	Property	House	Bang, Buck	House	Unsellable
HIST	Lock N' Load-R. Lee Ermey		Modern Marvels		Modern Marvels "Acid"		Nostradamus Effect		Lock N' Load-R. Lee Ermey		That's Impossible		Modern Marvels "Acid"		Nostradamus Effect		Lock N' Load-R. Lee Ermey	
LIFE	Grey's Anatomy		Medium "Be Kind, Rewind"		Medium "Blood Relation"		Project Runway		Project Runway		Models	Will & Grace	Frasier	Frasier	Will & Grace	Grey's Anatomy		Paid Program
MSNBC	The Ed Show		Hardball		Countdown-Olbermann		The Rachel Maddow Show		Countdown-Olbermann		The Rachel Maddow Show		Lockup: Corcoran		Lockup: Corcoran		Lockup "Inside Holman"	
MTV	America's Best Dance Crew		True Life		Fantasy Fact.	Pranked	Nitro Circus	Nitro Circus	★★ The Matrix Revolutions (2003) Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne.						★★ The Matrix Revolutions (2003) Keanu Reeves.			
NICK	iCarly	True Jackson	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	The Troop (N)	The Penguins	The Penguins	The Penguins	Lopez	Lopez	The Nanny	The Nanny	Malcolm-Mid.	Malcolm-Mid.	Lopez	Lopez	Hates Chris	Hates Chris
OXY	America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		The Tyra Banks Show		The Tyra Banks Show		Naughty Kitchen	
PCN	PCN Tours		High School Football Teams TBA. (Live)						PCN Evening - pcntv.com				PCN Tours	PCN Tours	PCN Profiles		Deutsche Welle News	
PCNC	Pittsburgh Now		News	PCNC News	NightTalk: Get to the Point		PCNC News		NightTalk		Pittsburgh	Fedko Fone	PCNC News	PCNC News		Paid Program	NightTalk	
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		★★★ Crimson Tide (1995, Suspense) Denzel Washington, Gene Hackman. Premiere.						NRL Rugby Teams TBA. (Same-day Tape)				Scariest Police Chases 2		Scariest Police Chases 3	
SYFY	Stargate SG-1 "Unending"		Stargate SG-1 "Lost City"		Stargate SG-1 "Lost City"		Stargate SG-1 "1969"		Stargate SG-1		Stargate SG-1 "The Nox"		Stargate SG-1		Stargate SG-1		Stargate SG-1	
TBS	Seinfeld	The Office	MLB Baseball Boston Red Sox at New York Yankees. (Subject to Blackout) (Live)						★★★ Spider-Man (2002, Action) Tobey Maguire, Willem Dafoe.					Sex and-City	★★★ Running Mates (2000) Tom Selleck, Laura Linney.			
TCM	(5:30) ★★★ The King and I (1956) Deborah Kerr.				★★ Scandal Sheet (1952) Donna Reed			★★★ The Phenix City Story (1955) John McIntire.				★★ The Brothers Rico (1957)			(:15) Ladies of the Chorus		(:15) ★★ Willie Dynamite	
TLC	Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress	Masters of Reception (N)		Dress	Dress	Masters of Reception		Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress
TNT	NUMB3RS "End Game"		CSI: NY		CSI: NY		★★★ Remember the Titans (2000) Denzel Washington.				(:15) ★★★ Remember the Titans (2000, Drama) Denzel Washington.						(:45) ★★ Two for the Money (2005)	
TOON	★ Home Alone 3 (1997) Alex D. Linz, Olek Krupa.				Star Wars	Ben 10: Alien	Dude	Destroy Build	King of Hill	King of Hill	Chicken	Amer Dad	The Office	Metal	The Oblongs	Frisky Dingo	King of Hill	King of Hill
TRAVEL	Extreme Truck Stops		Extreme Conventions		Man v. Food	Man v. Food	Ghost Adventures: The Beginning				Most Haunted USA		Man v. Food	Man v. Food	Ghost Adventures: The Beginning			
TRUTV	Wildest Police Videos		Cops	Cops	World's Wildest		Forensic	Forensic	Power, Privilege & Justice		Forensic	Forensic	World's Wildest		Forensic	Forensic	Power, Privilege & Justice	
TVLAND	Little House on the Prairie		Brady Bunch	Brady Bunch	Brady Bunch	Brady Bunch	★★ Airplane II: The Sequel (1982, Comedy) Robert Hays.				Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne "Slice of Life"		Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne
USA	NCIS "Sub Rosa"		NCIS "Witch Hunt"		NCIS "Sandblast"		Monk (N)		Psych "High Top Fade Out"		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Monk		Psych "High Top Fade Out"		★★ The Hunted (2003)	
VH1	Eddie Griffin	Eddie Griffin	Real Chance of Love		Behind the Music		Tool Academy		★★★ Good Morning, Vietnam (1987) Robin Williams, Forest Whitaker. Premiere.						Behind the Music		Behind the Music "Pink"	
VS.	Hunting TV	Outdoor	Dangerous	North-Alaska	Whitetail Rev.	Bucks	Buck Stops	Monster Bulls	Tred Barta	Huntley Way	Whitetail Rev.	Bucks	Buck Stops	Monster Bulls	Tred Barta	Huntley Way	Dangerous	North-Alaska
WE	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Ghost Whisperer		My Fair Wedding		My Fair Wedding		My Fair Wedding		My Fair Wedding		Wedding Cake Wars		Amazing Wedding Cakes		Amazing Wedding Cakes	
WGN	Becker	Becker	Funniest Home Videos		★★ Jurassic Park III (2001, Adventure) Sam Neill.				WGN News at Nine (N)		Scrubs	Scrubs	South Park	South Park	Star Trek: Next Gener.		The Bob & Tom Show	
ENC	Step Up 2 St.	(:35) ★ Bubble Boy (2001) 'PG-13'			★★★ Die Hard (1988, Action) Bruce Willis. 'R'				(:15) ★★ Nutty Professor II: The Klumps (2000) 'PG-13'				(12:05) ★★ Step Up 2 the Streets (2008)				(:45) ★★★ Scarface (1983) Al Pacino. 'R'	
HBO	(:15) ★★ The Bucket List (2007) Jack Nicholson. 'PG-13'				★★ Death Race (2008, Action) Jason Statham. 'R'				Real Time With Bill Maher		Real Time With Bill Maher		Bored	(:35) ★★ Hitman (2007) Timothy Olyphant.			(:10) ★ Turbulence (1997)	
MAX	(:05) ★ 10,000 B.C. (2008) Steven Strait. 'PG-13'				★★ RocknRolla (2008) Gerard Butler. 'R'				★★★ Live Free or Die Hard (2007) Bruce Willis. 'PG-13'				(12:15) Lingerie (N)		Zane's Sex Chronicles 'NR'		Cheech and Chong	
SHOW	Inside the NFL (iTV)		★★★ The Bank Job (2008) Jason Statham. iTV. 'R'				★ Good Luck Chuck (2007) Dane Cook. 'R'			Dexter	Strikeforce Challenger Series Zak Cummings vs. Tim Kennedy. (iTV) (Live)					Inside the NFL (iTV)		Foreign Exc.
STARZ	Superbad 'R'	★★ Next Friday (2000) Ice Cube. 'R'			(:09) ★★ Lakeview Terrace (2008) Samuel L. Jackson.				Crash (N)		(10:55) ★★ Bedtime Stories (2008) 'PG'			(:40) Crash			(:35) ★★ Next Friday (2000) Ice Cube. 'R'	
TMC	★★ Raw Deal (1986, Action) Arnold Schwarzenegger. 'R'				★★ Why Did I Get Married? (2007) Tyler Perry. 'PG-13'				★★ Seven Girlfriends (1999) Tim Daly.			(:45) ★ Fall: The Price of Silence (2000) Michael Madsen.					Bottoms Up (2006) Paris Hilton. 'R'	

HOTFACTS by YAHOO! hotjobs



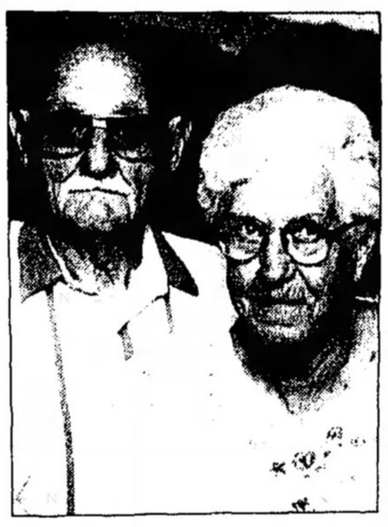
of new grads say benefits are their top priority in accepting a job.

Source: Yahoo! HotJobs college survey, May 2007

Boost your benefits by finding a job at PAJobMatch.com

FEATURES

ANNIVERSARIES



The Pascoes

Pascoe 50th

Harold L. and Dolores L. Pascoe, of Belle Vernon, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at an Oct. 3 party given by James and Pamela DeMatty at the Greensburg Fire Hall No. 2. Invited guests include family and friends from out of state and the local area.

The couple was united in marriage Oct. 1, 1949, at the Zion Lutheran Church, Toledo, Ohio.

Harold Pascoe is the son of the late Phillip and Mary E. (Lilley) Pascoe. Dolores Pascoe is the daughter of the late Frank and Florence (Wackley) Stamm.

They are the parents of a daughter, Pamela and husband, James DeMatty, of Greensburg; and a son, Douglas, and wife, Sandra Pascoe, of Indiana. They have 11 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

He is a retired U.S. Army staff sergeant and she is retired from Atlantic Bank, Tampa, Fla.

VALLEY CLUB NOTES

Forward Township Senior Citizens

The Forward Township Senior Citizens will meet noon Monday at the Bunola Fire Hall. This meeting will be a bake sale auction. Members are to bring baked goods to the meeting.

President JoeAnn Obusek will preside. Paul Acton is vice president; Jan Neander is secretary and Kay Miller, treasurer and in charge of membership. Membership is open.

Tours will be by Peggy Lane; greeter is Ruth Ann Werner; Flo Buono or Jim Chomas on tickets; hostess will be Dolly Acton, and volunteer aides. Maintenance engineers will be Paul Acton, Karl Neander, and Jim Chomas; Bev Chomas, for birthdays and anniversaries, which will be acknowledged. Sophie Schreiber and Peggy Lane will be in charge of games following the meeting.

Frugal Living

Ways to ease mild sore throat

Sara **NOEL**

DEAR SARA: Just wondering if you have any tried-and-true home remedies for sore throats. I've had a mild sore throat for the past two to three days off and on, and I'm getting tired of it. My throat looks red and irritated. Any help would be much appreciated. — **Q.M., e-mail**

DEAR Q.M.: I'm not a doctor, so my first suggestion is to see your physician to rule out anything serious. To ease the discomfort from a mild sore throat, I've gargled warm saltwater; taken an over-the-counter pain reliever, a decongestant or throat lozenges; plugged in a humidifier; drank hot tea with lemon and honey and alternated with plenty of water, frozen juice pops or fruit smoothies. I've also used Chloraseptic after a hot shower.

DEAR SARA: Best way to use up dip/salad dressing? I have purchased marked-down veggie trays, which have ranch dressing, and wondered if you have any ideas to use it up. I thought of marinating chicken and dusting in flour or cracker crumbs and baking or adding to meatloaf. Any other ideas? I would appreciate them. It is an ongoing problem. — **Fannie, California**

DEAR FANNIE: You can use it to make chicken-salad sandwiches, in a pasta salad or on baked potatoes or in mashed potatoes, on homemade pizza or hamburgers. Serve it with chicken nuggets or wings or breaded, fried mushrooms. Hidden Valley Ranch (www.hiddenvalley.com/recipes.php) has some recipes, too.

DEAR SARA: I'm planning a shopping jaunt on Friday, and I want to look for thrift shop(s) along the way where I can stop. Do you shop on certain days? Go looking for certain items during certain parts of the year? Find the best deals move from store to store? How do you plan your thrift shopping? — **Judi, New Hampshire**

DEAR JUDI: Keep a wish list of items you want or need handy in your purse. Know your size and the sizes of family and friends (for possible gifts). Write down measurements, such as windows or table sizes. Bring a tape measure just in case, too. Remember: If you won't use it, don't buy it. But think creatively. Consider things that can be reused or refashioned into something else. Dress comfortably. Bring cash.

Some thrift stores accept only cash. Have a good idea of what items cost when brand-new so you don't pay too much. Merchandise changes rapidly. A good item there one day might not be there the next. Take your time looking.

Some items can be misplaced elsewhere in the store. Don't forget to inspect items closely and try items on to be certain they fit, since items are sold "as is," and many thrift stores don't allow returns. Know their store policy. Double-check for safety, too. Here's a handy safety checklist: www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/thrift/thrftck.html.

Many thrift stores have color-coded-tag discount days, seasonal discounts or discounts by department. Thrift-store donations peak in December. Summer is also a good time to shop because many people donate their leftover garage-sale items. Try to drop in frequently, and in the early morning, to get the best results.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: T equals G

"SJMH RBKHN COHYYA MXNY. JM ABD ZBF'Y NYBC XFZ SBBE XOBDFZ BFIH JF X UWJSH, ABD IBDSZ RJNN JY." - PBWF WDTWHN

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Happiness ... it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort." - Vincent Van Gogh

(c) 2009 by NEA, Inc. 9-25

CALENDAR WATCH

Saturday

■ Potted mum sale pickups, First United Methodist Church, Belle Vernon, noon to 3 p.m.

■ Deejay Mick, Charleroi Elks, 9 p.m.

■ Multiphasic Blood Analysis, Monongahela Valley Hospital Anthony M. Lombardi Education Conference Center, 7 to 10 a.m.

■ Flea market, bake and food sale and Chinese auction, to benefit Finleyville Area Food Pantry, Finleyville Community Center, Marion Avenue, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

■ Gold and silver event, Bentleyville Public Library, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

■ Ethnicfest, sponsored by Nativity of Virgin Mary Orthodox Church, Chess Park, Monongahela, 10 a.m. to dusk.

■ Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk 2009, Peterswood Park, Venetia, registration, 8 a.m., walk begins at 9 a.m.

■ BVA Festival of Bands, James Weir Stadium, 1 p.m.

■ Rabies clinic, sponsored by Rostraver Township Lions Club, behind Hogan's Golf, Route 201, Rostraver Township, 2 to 4 p.m.

■ Chicken, rib and pork chop dinners, to benefit Increasing College/Community Monies, Holiday Bar and Grille, 48 Schoonmaker Ave., Monessen, noon; DJ Funkster, 9 p.m.

VALLEY GRAPEVINE

Fellowship luncheon planned in Charleroi

The Presbyterian Church of Charleroi, Lincoln Avenue and Fifth Street, will sponsor a free Fellowship Luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday. For information, call (724) 483-5861.

Tax hours added in Washington Twp.

Mary M. Yonash, Washington Township tax collector, will hold additional office hours 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday to collect taxes for the discount period.

Murtha extends academy deadline

Congressman John P. Murtha has announced that he has extended the deadline for students in the 12th Congressional District applying to receive a nomination to a U.S. military academy. Students interested in attending the U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Air Force or U.S. Merchant Marine Academy School next year will now have until Oct. 30 to request a nomination. For information, call 1-800-289-2642 or visit www.murtha.house.gov.

Men's conference set in Monessen

Gate of Heaven Church of God in Christ, Reed Avenue, Monessen, will hold its annual Men's Conference, Saturday and Sunday. The Rev. Jay Gooding and men from the Bronx, NY, will join with the men of Gate of Heaven from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday for the 11th annual "Steppin' in Style" Fashion Show at the Willow Room in Rostraver Township. Celebrity commentator will be Demetrius Ivory, meteorologist, WTAE channel 4. Gooding will also model. After the fashion show, the men will travel to Pittsburgh for an evening of fellowship. The Sunday service will begin at 10:45 a.m. The men will be in charge. There will be praise and worship, reflections, testimonies of how God changed men's lives, solos and the Word of God will be preached by Gooding. Gooding is also a recording artist. He was very good friends with the late Rev. Timothy Wright. The Rev. William C. Bass will give the closing remarks and benediction.

Annual apple sale set in Rostraver

The Rostraver/West Newton Emergency Services Inc., Rostraver Station, 100 Pleasant Valley Road, Rostraver Township, is accepting orders for its advance-orders only annual apple sale. Pickup will be 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 17. Order deadline is Oct. 10. Call (724) 929-9116 or (724) 872-9200.

Cash bash winning numbers announced

The winning numbers for the Charleroi Area High School cheerleaders' cash bash held Sept. 19 at the fire hall are: 403, 194, 193, 981, 349, 129, 457, 278, 810, 626, 032, 952, 753, 268, 857, 985 and 220. If you have a winning number, call (724) 469-0870.

Apple strudel sale scheduled in Donora

Our Lady of the Valley Christian Mothers and Women's Guild is having a homemade apple strudel sale Oct. 7, 8, and 9. Pickups will be from noon to 5:30 p.m. Orders must be placed by Sept. 30. Call (724) 379-9036 or (724) 379-7382. Regular, sugar-free and frozen are available.

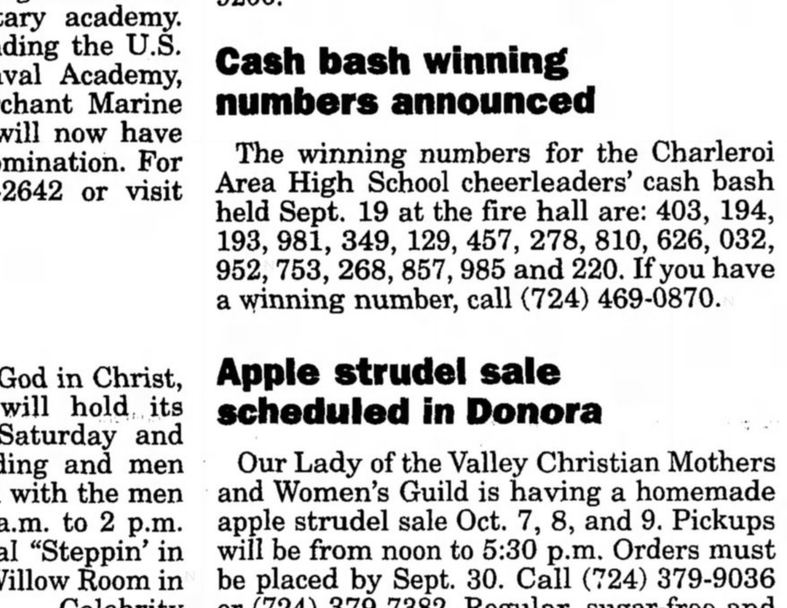
PROJECT OF THE WEEK

Wooden sled works as well as it plays

Every kid knows how exhilarating it is to race downhill in the snow, but for grown-ups a sled can be as practical as it is fun. This do-it-yourself version is perfect for hauling groceries, firewood or even tired youngsters through the snow, and it still has plenty of zip for your favorite hill.

The classic design features hardwood construction (birch and walnut as pictured, but other species also work well) and a removable seat to make room for kids or cargo. Brass hardware is used throughout to eliminate the problem of corrosion.

Easy enough for almost any woodworker, most of the sled's pieces are traced from full-size traceable patterns. To build, simply trace the pieces onto wood, cut out and sand. Next, assemble everything using brass screws, washers and epoxy glue. To finish, apply sealer and varnish, attach a pull rope and wax the runners. Patterns for the snowflake designs are included, or you can personalize the sled with your own design.



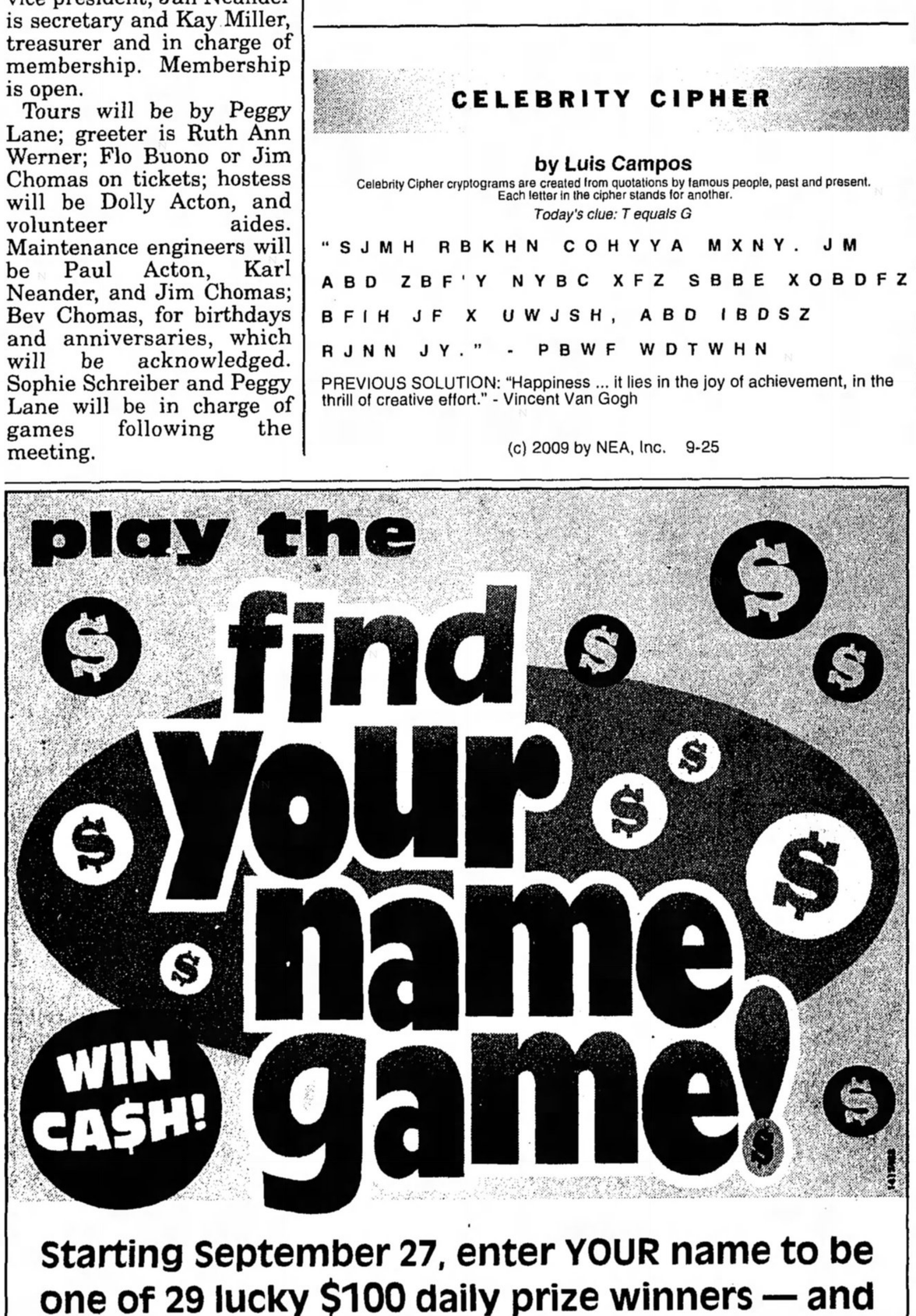
Wooden sled

The finished project measures 40 inches long by 15 inches wide.

The Sled plan, No. 795, is $9.95 and includes full-size traceable patterns, complete step-by-step directions with 14 photos, a shopping list and cutting schedule and a toll-free help line for project questions.

For fun on the go after the snow, a package of three pedal car plans, No. C143, is $22.95 and includes plans for a pedal-powered dump truck, fire truck and police car. Please include $4 for postage and handling and allow about two weeks for delivery.

To order by mail, clip this article and send it with a check or money order to U-Bild Features, c/o The Valley Independent, 3800 Oceanic Drive, Ste. 107, Oceanside, CA 92056. To order by credit card, or to request a free catalog, call 1-800-828-2453. Visit U-Bild on the Web at u-bild.com.



Starting September 27, enter YOUR name to be one of 29 lucky $100 daily prize winners — and a chance to win the $1,500 Grand Prize!

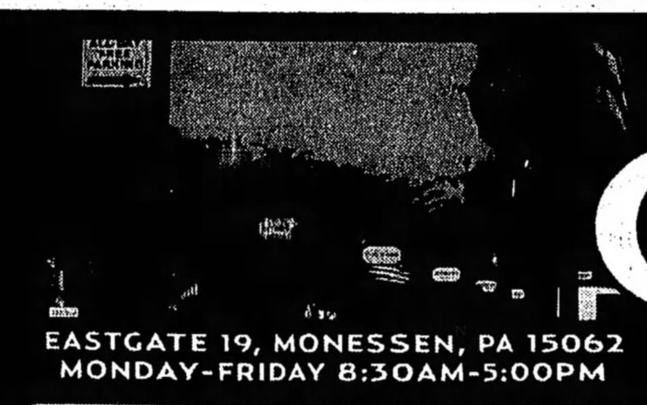
Watch your newspaper for details!

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

Hungarian Club
Ohio St., Pricedale
GRAND OPENING
Saturday, September 26th
Club Opens at Noon
DJ, Food, Door Prizes & More!
PHONE
724-929-2225

DONORA AMERICAN LEGION
(724) 379-9882
MENU FOR SATURDAY, SEPT. 26th
4:00 - 8:00
★ Veal-Stuffed Banana Peppers
★ Meat Lasagna
★ Meatball Hoagie
★ Spaghetti & Meatballs
★ Pork Tenderloin
★ Chicken Salad

TONITE! NO COVER
Roy's by the Tracks (RT88 N Finleyville) Welcomes Back
FYNAL TYME '2'
DRINK SPECIALS
KITCHEN OPEN
Acoustic Top 40 (featuring. CJ Swaney) 9:45-1



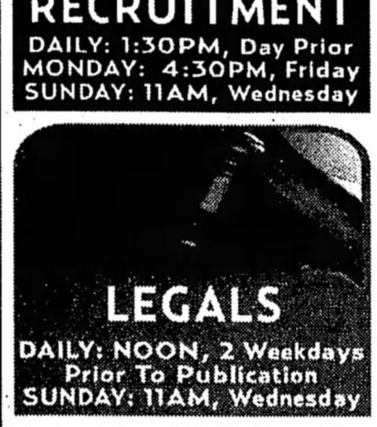
EASTGATE 19, MONESSEN, PA 15062
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30AM-5:00PM

Valley INDEPENDENT
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

CLASSIFIED

VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM 724.684.5200 FAX: 724.684.2602

RECRUITMENT
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday



LEGALS
DAILY: NOON, 2 Weekdays Prior To Publication
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

MERCHANDISE
4 LINES 4 DAYS $14.30 PRE-PAY
7 LINES 7 DAYS $20.00 PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

GARAGE SALES
5 LINES 3 DAYS $18.65 PRE-PAY
10 LINES 3 DAYS $21.00 PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

SERVICE DIRECTORY
3 LINES • 30 DAYS
$59.77 PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

AUTOMOTIVE
4 LINES • 26 DAYS
$34.78 PRE-PAY PRIVATE PARTY ONLY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

RUN UNTIL IT SELLS!
4 LINES
PRIVATE PARTY MERCHANDISE ONLY. NO BUSINESSES, AUTOS, BOATS, RV'S, REAL ESTATE, MOBILE HOMES OR APARTMENTS.
ASKING PRICE OF ITEM IS REDUCED EVERY TWO WEEKS BY 5%
$19.45 PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

1000/GEN/RECRUITMENT

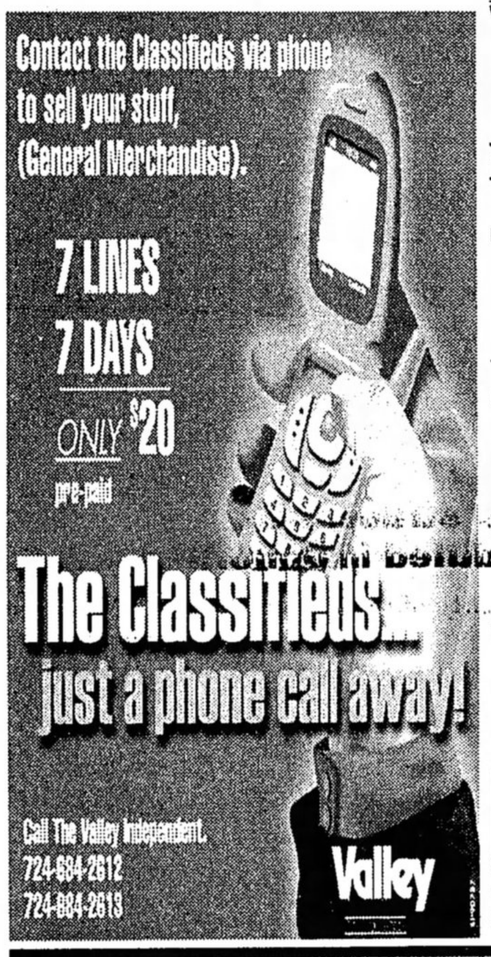
NOTICE TO READERS:

While work-at-home and other informational advertising is often legitimate, we advise readers to fully investigate the background of any company before paying a fee. If an offer sounds "too good to be true", it probably is. Proceed with caution if you are asked to send money or in calling 900 numbers. All phone numbers prefixed by "900" are charged to the caller on a per minute or per call basis. The Valley Independent makes every effort to qualify these charges for the reader. Remember, if you have any doubts, investigate!

1000/GEN/RECRUITMENT

MH/MR Support Staff

Laurel Highlands Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization that supports persons with MH/MR developmental disabilities, currently seeking full & part-time support staff to work in our community homes in the West Newton, Turkeytown Rd., New Stanton & Elizabeth areas. No experience necessary. Paid training. Must be at least 18 years of age and have valid PA driver's license. Starting rate is $8.63/hour with benefits after 90 days, increase to $8.86/hr. after 6 months. EOE. Call ONLY Mon.-Fri., 9-3pm. 412-825-9141.



1000/GEN/RECRUITMENT

CAREGIVER needed for daycare in Charleroi. For more info call 724-483-5295.

AUTO WRECKING YARD DISMANTLER needed. Full-time with benefits. Please call 1-800-245-1203.

BARTENDERS experienced for local club. Reply to Box 960 c/o The Valley Independent Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062.

QUALITY CONTROL- earn up to $100/day. Evaluate retail stores. Training provided. No experience required. Call 877-618-0702.

WAIT STAFF needed for new Alpine Club, Monessen. PT, mostly evening hours, must be 18. Exp. & references req. Call JoAnn at 724-684-8657.

WEEKENDS Are Made For Fun! Share your good times with children. FCCY is looking for weekend & full-time foster parents. Call 1-800-747-3807. EOE.

1040/MEDICAL

BILLING ASSISTANT

Needed immediately. Full-time with benefits. Applicants should have at least 1 year office exp. or prior training. Please Fax Reply To:
724-379-7203

CNA's

Havencrest Nursing Center now accepting applications for PRN's CNA's. Apply in person or send resume to panders@extendicare.com EOE

LPN- part-time/full-time, 30+ hours. Pleasant conditions. Competitive pay & benefits. Please fax resume: 724-379-7203.

MEDICAL ASSISTANT part-time for busy medical office in Speers. Front & back office duties. Send resume to 17 Arentzen Blvd. Ste. 102, Charleroi, PA 15022.

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE? CHECK OUTDOOR ADVENTURES. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

1040/MEDICAL

NURSE'S AIDE midnight shift. Apply in person: Country Care Manor, Fayette City 724-326-4909.

1050/SALES

OUTSIDE SALES REPS

Full or Part Time
Flexible Hours
Excellent Income Potential

We are looking for aggressive, results-oriented salespeople to join our team to market Home Delivery of
Tribune-Review Publishing Company
Crew leader, storefront and door-to-door positions are available.
Please call 412-610-6378
9am-5:30pm Monday
8am-3pm Tues. & Wed.
8am-12 Thursday
Closed Friday

1110/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

★ CAR WASH ★
FOR SALE
412-638-1471
or 412-427-1851

CHARLEROI CARRIER WANTED

•600's Crest Ave.
•500's-900's Meadow
30 Papers - Mon.-Sat.
No Collections
CALL 724-684-2648

MONESSEN CARRIER ROUTE

10's-200's Knox
600's-400's Rostraver St.
10's-200's Aliquippa Ave.
23 Customers
Mon.-Sat.
No Collections
Call 724-684-2648

LOOKING FOR A NEW PAD? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

1110/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

LOAN WANTED
I'm looking for loan of $4,200 at 8% over 42 months with payback at $114.76 mo. total interest $620. I own 2 homes & 1 auto. 724-234-5558.

2010/ESTATE NOTICES

Wherry, Kenneth
ESTATE NOTICE

Letters of testamentary on the estate of KENNETH WHERRY aka J. KENNETH WHERRY aka JAMES K. WHERRY aka JAMES KENNETH WHERRY, late of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, deceased, having been granted by the Register of Wills of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them without delay to:

James D. Wherry,
Executor
33 Christy Hill Road
Gales Ferry, CT 06335-1605

Timothy M. Maatta,
Attorney
513 Schoonmaker Ave.
Monessen, PA 15062
9/18,25;10/2

2020/BID NOTICES

BID NOTICE

The Borough of Fayette City is currently accepting bids for the collection, removal and disposal of all residential and business refuse within the borough for the next three years. Specs are available by contacting Mayor Herb Vargo, Vargo's Newsstand, Main Street, Fayette City 724-326-8580. Bids will be opened and read at 6:30 p.m. at their regular meeting on November 2.
9/25,26,28

LOOKING FOR A DREAM JOB? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

2020/BID NOTICES

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received by the Borough of Donora, 603 Meldon Avenue, Donora, Pennsylvania 15033, until 10:00 A.M. on Friday, October 9, 2009 for the Borough of Donora Fire Truck Project at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. All proposals must be on forms furnished by the Borough of Donora and proposal forms are available at the Borough Administrative Offices on weekdays, from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. All bids must be accompanied by a bid bond in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the bid price made payable to the Borough of Donora.

The Borough of Donora reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Jerome A. Stokes
Borough Administrator/
Secretary
9/25,28

2030/MEETING NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Agenda Meeting of the Washington County Board of Commissioners scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. has been changed. The Agenda Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 29, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 704 of the Courthouse Square Office Building, Washington, Pennsylvania.

By: Mary E. Helicke
Chief Clerk

WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:
Larry Maggi
Bracken Burns
Diana L. Irey
9/25

LOOKING FOR A NEW RIDE? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!
LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

4010/CEMETERY LOTS

2 LEVEL LOTS at MV Memorial Park in Well of Semaria section, near main road, across from old school. $945 for both. 724-929-4578

4070/LOST & FOUND

FIND SOMETHING?
LOSE SOMETHING?
Place your lost & found ad FREE. Runs 4 days at no charge. Call 724-684-5200.

4100/PERSONALS

$195 DIVORCE COMPLETE

No-Fault Uncontested
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-No Court Appearance or Travel To Office
-Free Information
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LIFELINE OF S.W. PA.
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724-489-9020

5000/APPAREL & JEWELRY

BOYS/GIRLS band t-shirts $3 ea. Hoodies $5 ea. Leave message 724-288-5641.

CLOTHES- girls fall size 8, name brand. $15/bag. 724-379-6663 or 724-516-1845.

CLOTHES- girls fall size 10, name brand. $15/bag. 724-379-6663 or 724-516-1845.

CLOTHES-girls fall name brand sizes 10, 12, 14 tops & bottoms. $2 ea. 724-379-6663 or 724-516-1845.

CLOTHES- name brand fall boys size 8 tops & bottoms. $2 ea. 724-379-6663 / 516-1845.

CLOTHING items bag of 10 plus size, $30.00 Call 724-326-4543.

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! ONLY IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TRIB TOTAL MEDIA
LOOKING FOR A FRIEND? CHECK THE PET DIRECTORY. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

5000/APPAREL & JEWELRY

FAUX FUR COAT dark brown, full length, size med., $25. 724-684-7289.

FAUX FUR COAT light tan size med., below waist $20. 724-684-7289.

GIRLS CLOTHES size 7/8 2 large garbage bags, $45.00 each. Call 724-366-7028.

GIRLS CLOTHES size 7/8, large garbage bag for $45.00. Call 724-366-7028.

LEATHER JACKET black, woman's, to waist, size 3X, new, $50. 724-684-7289.

PURSES one bag $10.00 Call 724-326-4543.

WINTER COAT- girls size 10, Limited Too, brown. $10. 724-379-6663 or 724-516-1845.

5010/APPLIANCES

DISHWASHER Kenmore under-the-counter, like new $75. Leave msg. 412-853-6600.

5020/ARTICLES

2 BOSE SPEAKERS 32" high, $100.00 or best offer. Call 724-258-3389.

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COUNTRY CARE MANOR personal care at it's best! One level, separate Dementia Wing, all brick const., country setting, 5+ acres. Affordable. 724-326-4909.

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(724) 684-5200 or Fax (724) 684-2602.

5020/ARTICLES

AIR CONDITIONER window, $40.00. Call 724-684-6193, 724-255-5144.

AIR HOCKEY table with accessories. Powen Glide. $35/offer. 724-929-5149/ 929-5753.

AMISH made sunflower napkin holder & apple butter churn $5 ea. 724-288-5641.

BAR STOOLS 4 wrought iron, new upholstered cushions, $20. 724-684-5762.

BIKE- boy's Schwinn Sting Ray. $75 or best offer. 724-929-5149 or 724-929-5753.

BIKE- boys Mountain Shogun, very good shape. $75/offer. 724-929-5149/ 929-5753.

CD'S 30 $10.00. 30 Floppy discs $5.00 Call 724-258-3389.

DALE EARNHARDT thermometer, $15.00 Call 724-326-4543.

END TABLES 2 chrome/glass, living room chair, $150. 724-483-1805.

FILING CABINET 2 drawer, metal, almond color, $15.00. Call 724-258-3389.

FUSE BOX- new service entrance Federal Pacific 100 amp. $20. Call 724-929-8108.

HARMONY/Kardon recording system, $75 or best offer. Call 724-258-3389.

4100/PERSONALS

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vacuums - repairs - parts.
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724-483-3397.

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APPLIANCE PICKUP & HAUL.
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or
724-797-0644

APPLIANCE REPAIR

APPLIANCE REPAIR Center.
Call 724-684-4432 or 724-797-0644.

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Furnace tune-ups.
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CLEANS GREAT & dries quickly. NO SOAKING! Call Tri County Chem Dry 724-483-9553.

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Dependable. References.
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No Job Too Small. Free Estimates. Call Lloyd @ 724-736-4770.

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doing exposed & stamped concrete, all block walls, porches, walks, driveways & floors.
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ROOFING, siding, decks & additions. 724-348-4644, 724-379-4962.

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TREE SERVICE

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For Only
$59.77 per month.
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DHCS Windows & Doors.
$185 window install.
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Monessen Pa 15062
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REAL ESTATE

3060/FOR SALE/WASH.

CARROLL TWP.
2 story, 3 bedrooms, 1st floor family room, new roof & HVAC. Asking $57,500. Owners Anxious.

MERICO S. LIGNELLI
Real Estate • Insurance
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CHARLEROI 502 10th St. 6 rooms, 2 baths, move in condition. $10,000. 724-929-7571.

CHARLEROI 717 Oakland Ave. 2 bedroom ranch, central air, finished gameroom w/fireplace & bar, 2 car garage. Excellent cond. $89,500. 724-483-3097 or 724-258-7154.

DONORA investment opportunity 4 unit rental property. $63,999. Call 724-379-9599.

DONORA
REDUCED
80 Thompson Ave. $39,900. 2 story frame house with covered front & back porch, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, carport, nice residential setting. Seller financing avail. Call D&P Realty at 724-225-7275.

DUNLEVY 3 BR, 2 ½ bath, gameroom, pool, garage, totally remodeled. Asking $187,000. 724-489-9331.

PACK YOUR BAGS
And move right into this 3 bedroom house in Speers. To many updates too list. Seller is motivated and will listen to offers. First time home buyers don't miss out on up to $8,000 tax credit. Make an appt. to see this priced to sell home today. Amanda Ferrara

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3065/FOR SALE/WMLD.

CEDAR CREEK Park area 566 Timms Lane. 2 story Cape Cod, alum. siding, 2 bedroom, bath, 2 enclosed porches, full basement, 3 car garage, 1 ¾ acre. $80,000 selling as is. 724-929-5164, 724-872-6734.

MONESSEN 2 bedroom, newer roof, alum. siding. $12,500. Call 724-684-6638.

ROSTRAVER
3 bedroom, all brick, 2/3 acre double lot, pool, walk to all schools, stunning inside & out. $229,900. Call 724-929-3325 or see at www.paopenhouse.com

3066/FOR SALE/OTHER

BELLE VERNON Nice 3 bedroom double wide, sunken living room with fireplace, appliances kitchen with new flooring, large deck, 2 storage sheds, pool, extra corner lot! $96,500.

CARROLL TWP. Immaculate 2 bedroom brick Cape Cod. Beautiful sun room, equipped kitchen with Corian counter tops, Pergo floors & new carpeting. Master suite with ½ bath. Many updates. Nice country setting. $129,000.

Century 21
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CHARLEROI 3 bedroom, 2 story nice home with new kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace in dining room & big front porch. Concrete parking pad. Very friendly neighborhood. Just move in for $59,900!

ELIZABETH TWP. 3 bedroom Log home on .7 acres. Cathedral ceilings with loft overlooking living room. Large kitchen fully appliances, bath on each floor. Just minutes from Rt. 51. Plenty of room to add garage. Bring offers! $129,900.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-929-2180

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3066/FOR SALE/OTHER

CONDO
5112 Cedar Hills Blvd. 2 bedroom quality built home. Fully appliances condo features custom drapes. Owner says "SELL". Reduced to $149,000.

GREAT STARTER
Well maintained 3 or 4 bedroom Cape Cod. Level lot, remodeled kitchen, appliances, updated electric and 2 car garage. $99,900.

CHARLEROI
513 First Street. Nice 3 bedroom home with lovely oak kitchen & newer carpeting. Only $39,500.

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724-929-1370

MONONGAHELA 3 bedroom home on corner fenced lot. 1st floor Master bedroom. Nice front & back porch. $48,721.

MONONGAHELA 4 bedroom Cape Cod. Nice sized rooms. Great neighborhood. $74,421.

MONESSEN 2/3 bedroom, 2 story. So much yard for in town home. Move in! $26,500.

Century 21
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3540/APTS-RENT/FAYETTE

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3555/APTS-RENT/WASHINGTON

CHARLEROI-large clean 1 bedroom apts., new carpet, furnished. $250-$300, 1 mo. free. David 1-888-477-9773.

CHARLEROI- 2 bedroom apt. Newly remodeled. Washer & dryer hookups. Please call 724-439-3440.

CHARLEROI- 1 bedroom new carpet, linoleum & paint, 2nd floor. References. No pets. Non-smoker. 724-825-8395.

CHARLEROI-1 bedroom, $475 per month, all utilities included except electric. 412-583-6829.

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3626/HSE-RENT/OTHER

Need Help Renting Your Property Out?
We're Expanding Our Property Management Department
Call Tom Simon at 724-929-9699
Howard Hanna
Simon Real Estate Services
724-929-9699

3555/APTS-RENT/WASHINGTON

CHARLEROI
1 & 2 bedroom apts. for rent w/intercom, wall to wall carpet, washer/dryer. $350-$500. Security deposit. No pets.
724-396-1140
724-292-1189

CHARLEROI 2nd floor, 2 bedrooms, 1½ baths, parking, central air. Water & sewage inc. $475. 724-483-8045.

CHARLEROI 2 ½ bedroom, stove, refrig. heat, water, sewage, garbage inc. $575. 724-518-1677.

★ **CHARLEROI And DONORA** ★
1 & 2 Bedroom Apts.
Clean & Secure
Call 412-398-9306

CHARLEROI Washington Ave. Large 1 bedroom, garage & laundry hookup. $650 incl. all utilities. 412-583-6829.

DONORA affordable apartments for rent. Call 724-379-9599.

DONORA eat-in kitchen, stove, refrig., lg. living room, 2 bedrooms, clean, peaceful, on bus line, no pets. 724-379-6492.

MONONGAHELA 2 bedroom, private, 1st floor, fireplace, back yard. $430+ utilities. 724-258-2473.

MONONGAHELA 1 bedroom, appliances. No pets, non-smoker. $375+ electric. Call 724-258-9674.

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND? CHECK THE PET DIRECTORY. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

3560/APT-RENT/WMLD.

BELLE VERNON- VERY NICE, huge 2 bedroom, all appliances. A/C. $750 incl. utilities. Security & references. No pets. 724-942-2493.

BELLE VERNON- completely remodeled 2 bedroom 1 bath, living/kitchen area w/breakfast bar, laundry, deck, spacious closets, new appliances, security system. $650 includes sewage & water. No pets. References required. 724-379-6160.

3561/APT-RENT/OTHER

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Modern 1 bedroom apartment. Air conditioning, refrigerator, stove, elevator, intercom, laundry, balcony, storage, security. Starting at $375 + utilities. Call 412-257-0902.

3605/HSE-RENT/FAYETTE

ARNOLD CITY 136 Nagy St. 2 bedroom, some appliances, oil heat, nice yard, no pets. $475+ security & utilities. 724-243-3205.

BELLE VERNON- 414 Market St. 3 bedroom updated home w/1st floor laundry & covered parking. $595+ utilities. Call 724-880-6595.

DAWSON- 2 bedrooms, large yard, pavilion, storage shed. $650 includes gas heat. Call 724-736-4781.

3620/HSE-RENT/WASHINGTON

DONORA- 2 houses: 3 bedrooms each, 1 bath, central air, parking. $560 mo. ea. Section 8 ok. 1-718-622-3090.

3620/HSE-RENT/WASHINGTON

DONORA- rent to own 2 bedroom, nice house. $2,000 down, $350 per month. 724-875-9123.

3625/HSE-RENT/WMLD.

MONESSEN 3 bedroom freshly painted. Section 8 ok. No pets. $575+ utilities & security. Call 412-592-8893.

MONESSEN 3 bedroom, completely remodeled. Sec. 8 approved. $600 includes sewage & water. 412-445-8491.

ROSTRAVER 2 bedroom brick ranch, 1 car integral garage, small level yard, convenient to Rt. 51 & I-70. $550+ utilities. 724-823-0750.

3636/GARAGE/STORAGE

GARAGE 19x30, 14x11 door, $242.00 per month. Finleyville area. 724-825-1411, 724-986-3279.

3645/MOBILE RENTALS

2 BEAUTIFUL MOBILE HOMES
Completely renovated
Everything new & upgraded
Rent to Own
Lot Rent, Home Payment, Sewage & Water, Taxes & Insurance
$475 Per Month
Riverview Mobile Estates, Dunlevy
724-483-2087
412-638-9620

NEW EAGLE- private lot, 3 bedroom, C/A, no pets. $475+ utilities & security deposit. Call 724-328-1766.

3700/COMMERCIAL RE

FAYETTE CITY for rent formerly Skibo's Salon, 1,155 sq. ft. Call for details 412-583-6829.

MONONGAHELA
WAREHOUSE/OFFICE SPACE
2,200 sq. ft. 10' overhead garage door. Near Rts. 43, 51 & 70. $650 mo.
---AND---
MONONGAHELA
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640-2,200 sq. ft. $425-$1,400. On site parking, close to Rts. 43, 51, 70.
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www.penosplaza.com

PERRYOPOLIS- small office or retail space for rent. Great location. Affordable. Call 724-880-1910.

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! ONLY IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

GARAGE SALES

5310/GARAGE/YARD SALES

CARROLL TWP. 2 Homes, 4 Families Sat. & Sun., Sept. 26 & 27, 9-3. 148 Taylor Run Rd. & 1359 Beech Dr. No Pre-sale.

FAYETTE CITY- Jefferson Estates Annual Neighborhood Sales. Rt. 201S, follow signs. Sat., Sept. 26, 9-3pm.

MONESSEN- 807 Alexander. Final Moving Sale, Everything Must Go! Sat., Sept. 26, 8-?

MONESSEN Multi Family Sat. & Sun., Sept. 26 & 27, 8-3. 2034 Grand Blvd. Children's clothes, toys, baby items & furniture, many household items.

MONESSEN Yard Sale, 4 Keystone Dr., off Monessen Blvd. Sat., Sept. 26, 9-3pm.

5310/GARAGE/YARD SALES

MONESSEN Sat., Sept. 26, 9am. Hartung Ct. near LaEda's. Rain Date Sun., Sept. 27. 2 child trains with table, portable crib, jogging stroller, 1890's carpenter plane, golf clubs, cigar boxes, flags, books, frames, floral, skis, many baby items.

MONONGAHELA Carport, Yard, Tent Sale Fri. & Sat., Sept. 25 & 26, 8-2. 438 Chess St. Collectibles M&M, Action Figures, Die Cast Vehicles, Bobble Heads; DVD's, books & audio books; bookcases, shelves & knick-knacks.

MONONGAHELA 1618 Route 2023 Hazelkirk Sat. & Sun., Sept. 26 & 27 & Sun., Oct. 4, 9-5.

5310/GARAGE/YARD SALES

MONONGAHELA- Estate Sale, at 103 Zeh St. Rt. 481 (Park Ave.) to Peno's Plaza, cross cement bridge on left to last house on right at top of hill, watch for signs. Fri. & Sat., Sept. 25 & 26, 9-3pm. Three generations of items as Edison, crocks, wicker lamp, vintage oak furniture, maple bedroom suit, fridge, stove, dishwasher, glassware, linens, jewelry, tools, player piano. Don't miss this one!

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5020/ARTICLES

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ONKYO Compact disc changer, 6 dics, fine pulse conversion sys. $75/offer. 724-258-3389.

PLAQUE little boy's room says Jeff's Room w/teddy bear, all wood, $10. 724-288-5641.

POOL TABLE regulation size and accessories, $150.00. Call 724-929-7961.

RECORDS 200 plus L.P. 88, all for $50.00 Call 724-258-3389.

RUGER 22 convertible stainless, new in box, $300.00. Call 724-938-3432.

STATE QUARTER CLOCK with all 50 quarters $65.00. Call 724-483-3156.

STEELER comforter; 15ft. x 3ft. pool; drum set; basketball hoop; kids bikes; upright freezer; window air conditioner. Must go make offer. 724-872-4821.

SWEEPER Royal electric, older model, works well $20. 724-684-7289.

TECHNICS FG. Servo auto. turn table system, $50.00 Call 724-258-3389.

TV- 36" flat picture tube w/stand, great picture. $100. 724-483-1805.

TV 36" Sony flat picture tube, $150.00 Call 724-483-1805.

TWIST SLIDE for wooden swing set, excellent condition. $200. 724-510-1466.

5030/AUCTIONS

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For more info contact Rachel 724-929-2135.
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5060/COMPUTERS

PHOTO printer Canon Pixma IP4000 like new $30.00. Call 724-483-2973.

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5070/ELECTRONICS

TV- Goldstar color cable ready, 16" screen. $50. Call 724-684-5762.

5080/EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

ELLIPTICAL Image 8.25, heavy duty, 1 yr. old, exc. cond. $75. 724-263-2829, 724-379-4576.

WEIGHT SET complete, $75.00 Call 724-797-0895.

5110/FOOD

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5130/FURNITURE

2 BED FRAMES- maple colored wooden, storage. Good condition. $70 each or $125 both. 724-326-8311.

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5035/BABY ITEMS

6-1 CARRIER Infantino brand name, brand new. $10. Call 724-929-3034.

HALLOWEEN Costume: Doodlebop Dee-Dee Doodle 3-4T, $10. Call 724-929-3034.

HALLOWEEN Costume: Red Hot Chili Pepper, 0-9 mo., brand new. $5. Call 724-929-3034.

SWING- Graco infant mobile brand new, teddy bear mobile. $75/offer. 724-929-3034.

5130/FURNITURE

CHAIR- living room, like new, $100; & chrome & glass END TABLES, $50. 724-483-1805.

CHINA CABINET 50"Lx72"Hx16"W, pecan, good cond., $50. 724-684-5762.

COMPUTER DESK with sliding key pad, $25.00 Call 724-797-0895.

COMPUTER DESK and chair, $25.00 Call 724-258-3389.

COUCH, chair, ottoman, 2 small marble coffee tables & large picture. $125. 724-243-3229.

COUCH good condition, $50.00 Call 724-825-2517.

KITCHEN TABLE formica, 4 chairs, $30.00 Call 724-684-7289.

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5180/MUSICAL

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FLUTE Artley excellent, $140. Call 724-929-4538 or cell 724-875-9235.

ORGAN BENCH- Lowry, never used. Excellent condition. $10. Call 724-684-5762.

5195/SPORTING GOODS

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5220/WANTED TO BUY

HAVE SOMETHING old or unusual to sell? Call Bill Brand 724-929-7895

WANTED X-Box 360 video game system. Working or non-working. 412-915-8890 Email: claimsadv@juno.com

5550/CATS

KITTENS 1st shots, litter trained, $35 inc. spay/neuter. 724-258-8380.

L/H orange/white cat, neutered, declawed, 2 yrs. $25. Call 724-258-8380.

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5560/DOGS - PUREBRED

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5600/LOST & FOUND

FOUND young brown female dog, Hammer Road, Fayette City. 724-326-4509.

LOST- bird on Sept. 4, gray with red tail, corner of Taylor Run Rd. & Sacred Heart Rd. "Nikko". Call Jeff even if you THINK you have seen him 724-321-4044

LOST 9/22/09 male Shih-Tzu, brown, collar. Connellsville St. (beyond Brownstown), Fayette City. 724-483-5176.

LOST female Blood Hound, red, choke chain, Rostraver by High School. 724-379-4698.

5610/PET SUPPLIES

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2001 OLDS Silhouette Van, V6, 4 dr. $2,795.
2000 DODGE Stratus, 4 dr., V6. $2,995.
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2000 CHRYSLER Cirrus, 81K, 4 dr., 4 cyl. $3,500.
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4100/PERSONALS

ASTRO ❖ GRAPH
Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday
SATURDAY, SEPT. 26, 2009

LIBRA
September 23 through October 23

In the year ahead, your leadership qualities and executive assets are likely to be far more pronounced. There's a strong possibility you will be appointed to a post of directorship, managing something of great significance.

LIBRA **(Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** -- Don't be surprised if your place becomes the designated meeting spot where important friends and colleagues stop by. You're the magnet that attracts them.

SCORPIO **(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** -- Although you might require lots of activity to satisfy an abundance of energy, you would still rather engage in tried-and-true recreational outlets or projects. You don't have to tie yourself down to just one.

SAGITTARIUS **(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** -- Spending a bit of time evaluating your resources or assets could pay off more handsomely than you might think. Once you determine your worth, you can calmly make plans.

CAPRICORN **(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** -- Your strong personality will be in evidence, and your leadership is likely to be employed wherever you go. You can run things and have fun simultaneously.

AQUARIUS **(Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** -- The two most effective tools you possess are a sense of humor and brilliant subtlety. They can both be effectively used to reverse developments that otherwise would work against you.

PISCES **(Feb. 20-March 20)** -- Try to attend to your duties first so that you can turn this day into one where you will have time for a little fun and games. Engaging in both will refurbish your outlook and attitude.

ARIES **(March 21-April 19)** -- Work-related goals aren't likely to be denied if you're bold enough to go after what you want. Be prepared to change your methods or tactics if and when the situation calls for it.

TAURUS **(April 20-May 20)** -- Recognize when wiser people are speaking, and be attentive. Something being imparted and explained needs to be well remembered because it can serve you well in the future.

GEMINI **(May 21-June 20)** -- Although you can be reactive without taking the necessary time to analyze all the available information, you will be patient about receiving pertinent data. You'll be glad you were.

CANCER **(June 21-July 22)** -- Adopting a spirit of cooperation always enhances your assets and amplifies your appeal to others. You can use this to your advantage when partnership arrangements are being discussed.

LEO **(July 23-Aug. 22)** -- Although you might prefer to work with your head rather than your hands, you are well suited to performing tasks that call for physical dexterity. Use both for a perfect union.

VIRGO **(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** -- Instead of following routine, take time to have fun with good friends. Quality time with timeless relationships will stimulate your communal senses.

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Know your Social Security representatives

Paula French is manager at the Social Security office in Rostraver Township.

Linda Bernardo, left, and Michelle Walters are workers at the Rostraver Township Social Security office.

At the Social Security office in Rostraver Township, from left, are claims representative Sue Ferguson, claims representative Mary Lou Lawrence and technical expert Jennifer Bracher.

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This is the staff of the Social Security office in Rostraver Township. In front, from left, are Michelle Walters, Lynn Klesen, Jennifer Bracher and Josh Grant. In back, from left, are Tanya Jackson, Sue Ferguson, Linda Bernardo and Mary Lou Lawrence.

Rick Hamilton is the security guard at the Social Security office in Rostraver Township.

At the Rostraver Social Security office are claims representatives Lynn Klesen, left, and Tanya Jackson.

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Law firm offers Social Security help

By MARK GALPER
Attorney with
Bergstein & Galper, P.C.

Applying for disability benefits from the Social Security Administration can be a bewildering process for those unfamiliar with the system.

Understanding the differences in the various benefits programs (SSD and SSI), the criteria necessary to establish eligibility for benefits, and all of the procedures which lead to a decision can be confusing.

Social Security law basically defines disability as the inability to engage in any type of gainful employment on a regular, sustained basis, due to a condition or combination of conditions, physical and/or mental, which have lasted or will be expected to last for a continuous period of at least 12 months.

Accordingly, unlike other types of disability programs, such as workers' compensation, it is usually not sufficient to establish that you cannot do the type of job that you used to do before you became ill or injured. You must establish the inability to do any type of work which exists in the national economy.

Most people begin the process by applying at a local Social Security office. For most residents of the Mid-Mon Valley area, that will be the Rostraver office.

Information about you, your educational background, your work history and particularly about your disabling conditions will be obtained. The file is then sent to the Bureau of Disability Determination (BDD), where further information is obtained from you and from treating health care providers.

That information is reviewed by various personnel, including medical advisors. You may be sent for an examination by a physician or other health care provider selected by the Social Security Administration or the BDD.

After the BDD has completed its review, a written decision is mailed to you. If that decision does not award benefits, you have the right to appeal that decision by requesting a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ).

You have the right to be represented by an attorney at all levels of the process. An attorney can assist you in the completion of forms, the gathering of treatment records and reports, and, most significantly, in the presentation of your case to the ALJ.

It is important to keep in mind that you should not give up just because you were denied benefits at the first level. If you are denied benefits at the first level and have not already consulted with an attorney, you should do so before the time expires to request an ALJ hearing.

The law firm of Bergstein & Galper, P.C., located in Monessen, has attorneys experienced in the handling of Social Security Disability and SSI cases. If you have a question, you can contact us at (724) 684-3444, by e-mail at bgatlaw@bgatlaw.com, or via our Web site at www.bgatlaw.com.

Make sure your records match ours

By PAULA FRENCH
Social Security Manager
Rostraver office

It is important to regularly check your records to make sure the name and number on your Social Security card match up with the name and number you're using elsewhere. If you don't, it could cost you time, money and effort to resolve.

Your Social Security number and the name on your Social Security card are often used by companies and government agencies as a way to check your identity. If anything is amiss, you could have a problem. That's why you should regularly check to make sure your records match. This is especially true for people who have recently changed their names, such as new brides or adopted children.

Here are a few examples of situations where mismatches can cause trouble.

■ Timely tax refunds. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) checks your return against your Social Security records. If your name and number don't match up, it could mean a delay in your tax refund or trouble with the IRS.

■ Your vote counts. But not if your voter registration records don't match up. Don't go to the polls only to discover that you don't have permission to vote because of a mismatch.

■ Leave the driving to us. You'll have to if you can't renew your driver's license due to a name and Social Security number mismatch with your state's Department or Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

■ Payroll problems. Make sure your employer and human resources department are using the correct name and Social Security number. Not only could it be a red flag to your employer when your identity doesn't match, it could affect your future Social Security benefits.

■ Credit where credit is due. If your earnings are not reported to Social Security under your correct name and number, you may not get the earnings credits you're due — and that could translate to lower benefit payments in your future. Such earnings discrepancies can be corrected, but it can cause an inconvenient delay when you file for benefits.

There are many reasons why your identity records should match ours. So make sure that any time you deal with a company or government agency, they have your correct name and Social Security number as it appears on your Social Security card.

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Coaching, great playbook equal success

By JOEY HERRON
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist, Clarksburg W.Va.

You only need to look at the Indianapolis Colts' Super Bowl-winning quarterback Peyton Manning to understand how the secret to a successful football season can depend on a savvy quarterback and great play calling.

The same is true for a successful retirement — except that you are the quarterback and you also call the plays — for example, when to retire and how much to save.

Even Peyton's younger brother, New York Giants' Super Bowl-winning quarterback Eli Manning can tell you that the most talented quarterback can't rack up a Super Bowl winning performance without good coaching and a playbook.

Social Security understands that the same is true when it comes to retirement planning. While you will have to call your own financial plays, we can help you decide what 'play options' might be successful in any given situation.

For example, how much can you expect to get from Social Security? How much more could you get if you worked a year longer? Two years? What about your spouse, if you are married? And how much should you be saving in addition to your expected Social Security benefits?

All of these questions can be answered simply by visiting our Social Security Web site at www.socialsecurity.gov. It's like training camp for financial planning.

There you will find several financial planning tools, including our new, easy-to-use Retirement Estimator. You can use it to get quick retirement estimates based upon your own earnings record.

All you have to do is provide some very basic information about yourself — your name, Social Security number, date and place of birth, your mother's maiden name, and your last year's earnings.

The Retirement Estimator will then create Social Security benefit estimates, based on your entire career earnings record.

The estimator shows what you would receive in Social Security benefits if you retired at age 62, what you would receive at your full retirement age and what you would receive if you worked until age 70.

Interested in other play options, such as what would happen if you made more money in the future? Or if you want to stop work at a different age than the three we show you?

You can try out alternate game plans using the screens on the Retirement Estimator page, in case you change your mind about your initial retirement plans.

Remember what one of football's most accomplished and respected coaches, Vince Lombardi, said: "There's only one way to succeed in anything, and that is to give it everything."

So give everything you have to developing the playbook for your retirement.

And the best place to begin your game plan for a successful retirement is at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Financial planning for the under-35 crowd

Financial planning is not just for people nearing retirement. In fact, it's a good idea to begin planning for a comfortable and secure retirement when you're young.

That's why Social Security has a new financial planning tool especially for the 25 to 35 crowd. It's a special mailer with information about Social Security, savings, and other items of interest to young workers. If you're between the ages of 25 and 35 and you work and pay Social Security taxes, you'll get this automatically with your next Social Security Statement.

Social Security is the foundation for a secure retirement, but was never intended to be your only source of income when you retire.

While Social Security replaces about 40 percent of the average worker's pre-retirement earnings, most financial advisors say that you will need 70 percent or more of pre-retirement earnings to live comfortably. Even with a pension, you will still need to save. If you will not have a private pension, you will need to save more — and start saving sooner. Today's young workers can expect to spend 20, 30 or even more years in retirement, so saving is critical.

Want to start planning your future? There are some easy ways to do so. Take a look at your Social Security Statement, which you'll receive in the mail about two to three months before your birthday, as well as the helpful two-page insert tailored specifically to workers ages 25 to 35.

Pay close attention to the information provided, including tips on saving, getting your employer to help with matching contributions to retirement plans, and how much of a difference beginning to save early can make. There's even a graph showing the significant difference saving over time can make, even if it's just $25 or $50 a week.

The insert also includes helpful links to outside Web site that can help you. For example, you can go to www.mymoney.gov for information on getting credit, paying for education, buying a home, creating a budget, starting a business as well as financial calculators and planning tools.

Or visit www.federalreserve.gov for a worksheet that will help you establish a budget to meet your financial goals.

These and other financial links on the insert will help you become the master of your own financial future.

If you were born on the __ of the month	Social Security benefits are paid on
1 st - 10 th	Second Wednesday
11 th - 20 th	Third Wednesday
21 st - 31st	Fourth Wednesday

When are benefits paid?

Anyone applying for Social Security benefits after May 1997 receives his or her Social Security benefits on a Wednesday during the month. Which Wednesday you receive your benefit payment depends upon the date of your birthday.

If you were receiving Social Security benefits on the third day of the month before May 1997, you will continue to receive them on the third each month.

For a schedule of check payment dates for 2009, see www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/2009calendar.htm.

If you are receiving paper checks by mail and you do not receive a check on the day it is expected, wait three days after the date you normally receive your check. If you still haven't received your check, contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213.

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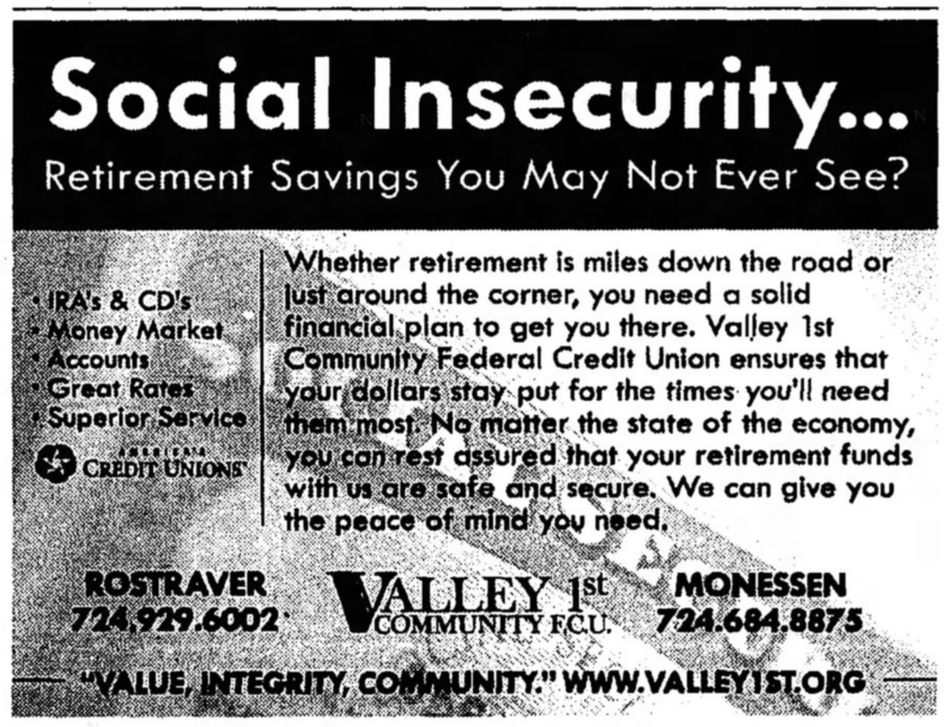
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Uniontown Social Security staff

This is the staff of the Social Security office in Uniontown. In front, from left, are Janet Chico, Marva Kirby, Tammy McMichael, Carey Young, Erica Cieply, Dianna Yespak and Ashley Acklin. In back, from left, are Carolyn Carrier, Isaac Melvin, Lorraine Smithburger, Mark Caton, David Whipkey, David Voelker, Jim Kormos and Paul Banko.

Spouses can file on line, too

By NICOLE MORRIS
Social Security Operations Supervisor, Uniontown office

You probably already know that when it comes time to apply for retirement, you can do it online at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline. But did you know that spouses can apply on line, too?

That's right. If you are a spouse applying for benefits based on your husband's or wife's record, you can do it online from the convenience of your own home. It's so easy!

Wonder whether you may qualify to apply for spouse's benefits? If you are a spouse who has not worked or who has worked for very low wages, you could be entitled to a benefit equal to as much as one-half of your retired spouse's full benefit. Even if you are divorced, you may be eligible for benefits based on the employment record of your former spouse.

To get benefits on your spouse's record, you must be at least age 62 or have a qualifying child in your care — a child who is under age 16 or who receives Social Security disability benefits.

The amount of your spousal benefit depends on your age at retirement. If you begin receiving benefits before full retirement age, your benefits will be permanently reduced in most cases.

You also may be eligible for a retirement benefit based on your own earnings. If that benefit is higher than the spousal benefit, Social Security would pay you the higher benefit. We compare which of the two benefits would be more beneficial to you, and discuss the options you have.

If you have reached your full retirement age and are eligible for a spouse's benefit as well as your own retirement benefit, you may choose to receive the spouse's benefits only in order to continue accruing delayed retirement credits on your own Social Security record. You may then file for benefits at a later date and receive a higher monthly benefit based on the effect of delayed retirement credits.

Remember that if you are a spouse who is taking care of a minor child (16 or under) or a child who is disabled and gets Social Security benefits on your or your spouse's record, you can receive a benefit, regardless of your retirement age.

Read more about Social Security Retirement Benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10035.html.

Ready to apply for benefits right now? You can do it online at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline.

Protect your information

At home, you can lock your doors. When it comes to your car, you can activate the alarm system. But what can you do to protect your identity?

What better time than National Safety Month to educate yourself in protecting your personal information? Here are some quick tips:

- Keep your Social Security card at home in a safe place, wherever you keep your important paperwork.
- Safeguard your number as well — don't give it to just anyone; many places you do business with may ask for it as a means of identification even though they can use other identifying information.
- Shred before you toss — identity thieves can rummage through your trash or recycling material and find a gold mine of information, so be sure to destroy any identifying information before you throw it out.

Social Security questions and answers

General

Q: I lost my Social Security card and am afraid someone else could be using my number. Should I report it to Social Security?

A: If you think someone is using your number to work, call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). But reporting a lost or stolen card to Social Security will not prevent its misuse. That is why you should take further action.

If you think someone is using your number, there are several other actions you will want to take:

- Contact the Federal Trade Commission online at www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338).
- File an online complaint with the Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov.
- Contact the IRS Identity Theft Hotline by calling 1-800-908-4490 Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Monitor your credit report.

Retirement

Q: How much can I earn and still get Social Security retirement benefits?

A: Starting with the month you reach your full retirement age, you will get your full benefits with no limit on your earnings. Social Security uses the formulas below, based on your age, to determine how much your benefit may be reduced:

If you are under your full retirement age: when you start getting your Social Security payments, $1 in benefits will be deducted for each $2 you earn above the annual limit. For 2009, that limit is $14,160.

The earliest age you can receive Social Security retirement benefits remains 62, even though the full retirement age is rising.

In the year you reach your full retirement age, $1 in benefits will be deducted for each $3 you earn above a different limit, but only counting earnings before the month you reach full retirement age. For 2009, this limit is $37,680.

Keep in mind that although your benefits may be reduced due to earnings, you may receive a higher benefit later. After you reach full retirement age, we will recalculate your benefit amount to give you credit for any months in which you did not receive a benefit because of your earnings.

In addition, as long as you continue to work and receive benefits, we will check your record every year to see whether the additional earnings will increase your monthly benefit. Find out your full retirement age at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/ageincrease.htm. Learn more by reading our publication, How Work Affects Your Benefits, at HYPERLINK www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10069.html.

Taxes

Q: Do I have to pay income tax on my Social Security benefits?

A: You will have to pay federal taxes on your benefits if you file an individual federal tax return and your total income is more than $25,000. If you file a joint return, you will have to pay taxes if you and your spouse have a total income that is more than $32,000.

For more information, call the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) toll-free at 1-800-829-3676 (TTY 1-800-829-4059) and ask for IRS Publication 915, Social Security and Equivalent Railroad Retirement Benefits, available online at www.irs.gov/publications/p915/index.html .

Disability

Q: I am receiving Social Security disability benefits. Will my benefits be affected if I work and earn money?

A: Social Security wants to help you go to work if that's what you'd like to do. We offer work incentives that will help you keep your cash benefits and Medicare coverage while you test your ability to work. For example, there is a trial work period during which you can receive full benefits regardless of how much you earn, as long as you report your work activity to us and continue to have a disabling impairment. For more information about work incentives, we recommend that you read "Working While Disabled — How We Can Help." You'll find it online at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10095.html.

Time limits

Q: Is there a time limit on Social Security disability benefits?

A: No. Your disability benefits will continue as long as your medical condition has not improved and you cannot work. Your case will be reviewed at regular intervals to make sure you are still disabled. If you are receiving disability benefits when you reach full retirement age, they will automatically be converted to retirement benefits.

Supplemental Security Income

Q: How much will I receive if I qualify for SSI benefits?

A: The amount of your SSI benefit depends, in part, on where you live. The basic maximum SSI payment is the same nationwide. For 2009, the maximum SSI payment for an eligible individual is $674 per month and $1,011 per month for an eligible couple. However, some states add money to the basic payment to help you meet your living expenses.

In addition, other income you have can reduce the basic SSI payment amount, and so can your living arrangements if you are receiving help from others.

For more information, go to "www.socialsecurity.gov.

Medicare

Q: Is it true that if you have low income you can get help paying Medicare premiums?

A: Yes. If your income and resources are limited, your state may be able to help with your Medicare Part B premium, deductibles, and coinsurance amounts. State rules vary on the income and resource limits that apply. Contact your state or local medical assistance, social services or welfare office, or call the Medicare hotline, 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) and ask about the Medicare Savings Programs.

If you have limited income and resources, you also may be eligible for help paying for prescription drug coverage under Medicare Part D. Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or visit any Social Security office and ask about extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage. (TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778.)

Online information is available at www.medicare.gov and at www.socialsecurity.gov.

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Getting SSI? Be sure to report changes

Do you get monthly Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments? If so, then be sure to report any changes in your living arrangements to your local Social Security office. It could mean an increase, or decrease, in your payment amount.

Here's why.

Your SSI payment is based on your income, not on your expenses. However, the cost-of-living expenses such as food or shelter that someone else provides may be considered income to you and could reduce your SSI payment.

Items you receive that cannot be used for food or shelter are not considered income and will not affect your SSI payment.

For example, we wouldn't count things like kitchen appliances or a personal computer that someone might give you as a gift.

Your monthly SSI benefit may vary depending on where you live and whether someone else pays for your living expenses. Generally, you can get up to the maximum SSI payment if you live in your own place or you live in someone else's residence, but you pay the full cost of your food and shelter.

However, your SSI benefit may be reduced if:

- You live somewhere else and you pay only a part of your share of food or housing costs.
- You live in a house, apartment or trailer but someone else pays for your food, rent or mortgage expenses, and other things like electricity and garbage removal.
- You're in a nursing home or hospital for the whole month and Medicaid pays for over one-half of your bills.

The important thing to remember is to let us know if anything changes in your living arrangements — where you live, who you live with, or how the bills are paid.

Visit Social Security online at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi for more information about living arrangements and how they may affect your SSI eligibility or monthly payment amount.

Or call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Area offices

800 Plaza Dr., Suite 320
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1-866-931-4826

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942 Morgantown St.
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Although the program is free and open to the public, advance registration is requested at 724-258-1148.

For more information on Diabetes Education, please visit the Health Library link on Monongahela Valley Hospital's website, monvalleyhospital.com

MVH Monongahela Valley Hospital HEALTH CARE

Tools can help you decide when to retire

By MILAN MAMULA
Social Security District Manager, Washington, Pa., office

These days, everyone is taking a new look at their finances — and no one is looking more closely than the millions of baby boomers who are nearing retirement age.

While some boomers expected to retire at one of the traditional milestones, such as age 62, the current economy is forcing many of them to re-evaluate their plans. Many are wondering if they should work longer, or how their Social Security benefit — or their spouse's benefit — would be affected if they continued working.

To help them find answers, Social Security has published a fact sheet called "When To Start Receiving Retirement Benefits." You can read it online at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10147.html.

As most workers know, your choice of a retirement age — from 62 to 70 — can dramatically affect your monthly Social Security benefit amount.

If you choose to start receiving benefits early, the monthly payments will be reduced based on the number of months you receive benefits before you reach your full retirement age. The rate of reduction will depend on the year you were born. The maximum reduction at age 62 will be:

- 25 percent for people born between 1947 and 1958.
- 30 percent for people born after 1959.

If you wait until your full retirement age, your benefits will not be reduced. And if you should choose to delay retirement, your benefit will increase up to 8 percent a year from your full retirement age until age 70. However, there is no additional benefit increase after you reach age 70, even if you continue to delay taking benefits.

Social Security also has created several retirement planners to help you make an informed decision. Social Security has an on-line calculator that can provide immediate retirement benefit estimates to help you plan for your retirement. The on-line Retirement Estimator uses information from your own earnings record, and lets you create "what if" scenarios. You can, for example, change your "stop work" date or expected future earnings to create and compare different retirement options.

To use the Retirement Estimator, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Read "When To Start Receiving Retirement Benefits" at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10147.html.

And for general information about Social Security, visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

Retirement decisions are unique to everyone. Make sure you are up to date with the important information you will need to make the choice that's right for you.